DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 394 717 PS 024 174

TITLE	Minnesota Kids: A Closer Look. 1996 Data Book.
INSTITUTION	Kids Count Minnesota, Minneapolis.
SPONS AGENCY	Annie E. Casey Foundation, Greenwich, CT.
PUB DATE	96
NOTE	259p.; For 1994 report and summary, see ED 385 372.
AVAILABLE FROM	Congregations Concerned for Children, 122 West Franklin Avenue, Suite 218, Minneapolis, MN 55404 ($12, non-profit and individual rate; $15, for-profit and institutional rate; plus $1.50 postage and handling. A 12-minute videotape is also available).
PUB TYPE	Reports - Research/Technical (143) -- Statistical Data (110)
EDRS PRICE	MF01/PC11 Plus Postage.
DESCRIPTORS	Adolescents; *At Risk Persons; Births to Single Women; Census Figures; Child Abuse; *Child Health; Child Neglect; *Child Welfare; *Counties; Crime; Death; *Demography; Dropouts; Infant Mortality; Low Income; Mothers; Poverty; Poverty Areas; Resources; Unwed Mothers; Violence; Well Being
IDENTIFIERS	Aid to Families with Dependent Children; Childrens Defense Fund; *Minnesota; Vaccination

ABSTRACT

Minnesota KIDS COUNT focuses on key risk indicators for children and describes the condition of children in each of Minnesota's 87 counties. According to this second annual report, another generation of children is at risk of growing up with decreasing resources, evidenced by increasing arrest rates for violent crimes and substantiated reports of child abuse and neglect. This report looks at three indicators of birth circumstances and health: (1) children born to teenage mothers; (2) children born at low birth weight; and (3) children not fully immunized. Three indicators of income are examined: (1) children in poverty; (2) children receiving Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC); and (3) children eligible for free or reduced-price school lunches. Other indicators detailed are: (1) children dropping out of school; (2) children arrested for violent crime; (3) children abused or neglected; and (4) children dying violently. Section 1 deals with these indicators of risk, describing and analyzing each category. Section 2 presents county profiles for Minnesota. For each county, a brief description, map, demographic information (including population, number of children, number of children under age 6), and statistics under the categories of "Family Economics," "Birth Circumstances and Health," and "Signs of Trouble" are provided. An addendum is included, "1993 Substantiated Reports of Child Abuse and Neglect," divided by county. (BGC)

****
* Reproductions supplied by EDRS are the best that can be made *
* from the original document. *
****

ED 394 717

PS 024174

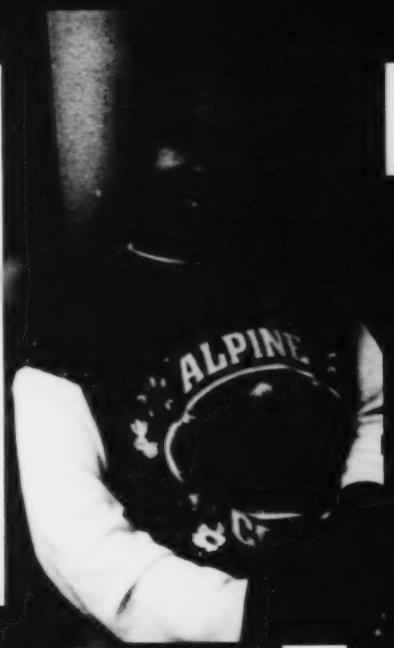
Minnesota Kids: A Closer Look
1996 Data Book

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
Office of Educational Research and Improvement
EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES INFORMATION CENTER (ERIC)

X This document has been reproduced as received from the person or organization originating it.

☐ Minor changes have been made to improve reproduction quality.

• Points of view or opinions stated in this document do not necessarily represent official OERI position or policy.



kids count minnesota

PERMISSION TO REPRODUCE AND DISSEMINATE THIS MATERIAL HAS BEEN GRANTED BY
Susan Raffo

TO THE EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES INFORMATION CENTER (ERIC)

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Minnesota KIDS COUNT is a joint project of the
Children's Defense Fund-Minnesota and
Congregations Concerned for Children at the Minneapolis Council of Churches.
Minnesota KIDS COUNT releases periodic reports and an annual data book to provide a statistical profile of Minnesota's children and suggestions for action on their behalf.
This data book was made possible through funds provided by the Annie E. Casey Foundation.

Any or all portions of this report may be reproduced without prior permission, provided the source is cited.

Additional copies of this book are available for $12 (non-profit and individual rate) or $15 (for-profit and institutional rate), plus $1.50 postage and handling.
A 12-minute videotape is also available, from:

Congregations Concerned for Children
122 W. Franklin Ave., Suite 218
Minneapolis, MN 55404
612/870-3660

6

7

Minnesota KIDS COUNT Staff:

Jim Koppel, Director, Children's Defense Fund-MN
Diane Benjamin, KIDS COUNT Director, Children's Defense Fund-MN
Susan Raffo, KIDS COUNT Communications Coordinator, Congregations Concerned for Children
Barb Bottger, Intern, Children's Defense Fund-MN

Writing Assistance Provided By:

Rachel Fang, Urban Coalition
Cheryl Fogarty, St. Paul Public Health Department
Julie Hirsch, Center for Applied Research and Educational Improvement, University of MN
Nancy Nelson, Minnesota Organization on Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention and Parenting
Julie Prom, Minnesota Safety Council
Kristin Stets, Children's Defense Fund-MN
Jessica Toft, Family and Children's Services, Minneapolis

KIDS COUNT Advisory and Data Committees:

Trudy Dunham, Center for 4-H Youth Development, Minnesota Extension Service
Marti Erickson, Children, Youth and Family Consortium, University of Minnesota
Richard Fong, Minnesota Planning
Patrick Gannon, Child Care Resource and Referral, Rochester
Jane Gilley, St. Louis County Social Services, Duluth
Ann Hill, Ombudsperson for African American Families, State of Minnesota
Ann Jaede, Minnesota Planning
Marie Lee-Rude, Minnesota Extension Service, Southwest State University, Marshall
Ofelia Lopez, Wilder Foundation
Nancy Nelson, Minnesota Organization on Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention and Parenting
Ron Pitzer, Family Sociologist, University of Minnesota Extension Service
Patricia Ray, Ombudsperson for Spanish Speaking Families, State of Minnesota
Pete Rode, Urban Coalition

Photos Courtesy Of:

School volunteer Ed Brandt and Vickie Rogue, Chong Vue, PaHoua Vang, Yia Moua, Khat Peng, Doug Reeves, Jessica Gonzales, Stacie Gardner, Amber Nelson, Jonah Seaborg, photography students at St. Michael School in West St. Paul and Cherokee Heights Elementary School in St. Paul. Thanks to the school staff and administration for their support in this project.

Additional photos (front cover, page 19 and page 27) courtesy of Ann Luce and Peter Lindman.

Data Provided By:

Sue Bedard-Johnson and Carol Vargas, Minnesota Center for Health Statistics, Department of Health
John Byhre, Minnesota Department of Human Services
Kris Ehresmann, Acute Disease Epidemiology, Minnesota Department of Health
Judy Kuck, Quality Services Division, Minnesota Department of Human Services
Sharon Peck, Data Management, Minnesota Department of Children, Families and Learning
Carol Weber, Criminal Justice, Minnesota Planning
Susan Weeks, Food & Nutrition Services, Minnesota Department Of Children, Families and Learning

Report Designed and Produced By:
Linda Coffin, PageCratters

10

11

Children's Defense Fund of MN, 550 Rice Street, Suite 205, St. Paul, MN 55103; 612/227-6121

Table of Contents

Acknowledgments iii

Findings vi

How to Use This Book 1

Discussion Questions 2

Section 1: Indicators of Risk

- Children in Poverty 4
- Children of Color in Poverty 6
- Children Receiving AFDC 8
- Children Eligible for Free or Reduced-Price School Lunch 10
- Children Born to Teenage Mothers 12
- Children Born at Low Birth Weight 14
- Children Not Fully Immunized by Age 2 16
- Children Dropping Out of School 18
- Children Arrested for Violent Crime 20
- Children Abused and Neglected 22
- Children Dying Violently 24

Section 2: County Profiles

- Statewide Profile 26
- County Profiles 28-114

Data Sources 115

Resources 116

Addendum: 1993 Substantiated Reports of Child Abuse and Neglect 118

Order Form 119

INTRODUCTION

Sixteen years ago, Ronald Reagan became president of the United States. He promised to balance the budget, reduce taxes and trim social spending. During the first three years of the Reagan administration, Congress cut $57 billion from programs that help poor and low-income people. (The number of Americans in poverty increased by 35% since that time.) These reductions applied to food stamps, Aid to Families With Dependent Children (AFDC), Medicaid, low-income housing, public service employment, job training, energy assistance, legal services, Title I (remedial reading and math education), community health centers, school lunch programs, child care, student financial aid programs and unemployment insurance. Simultaneously, the tax burden of poor families increased. Tax cuts and increases in defense spending massively increased the federal deficit.

Sixteen years ago, today's teenagers were young children. They grew up with increasing inequality and are the living result of this social experiment. Today, we again hear politicians urging cuts to social programs. Another generation of children is at risk of growing up with even fewer resources available. The choices we make now will affect how our state and nation's children will fare as they come of age in the twenty-first century.

FINDINGS

Minnesota Kids: A Closer Look **shows that both the rates of arrests for violent crimes and substantiated reports of child abuse and neglect are increasing rapidly.** This is in contrast to the other indicators of child well-being, which have been more stable over the last three years.

Family Economics

The 1996 Minnesota KIDS COUNT Data Book uses three indicators to measure child poverty: the 1990 census, the number of children receiving AFDC, and the number of children receiving free or reduced-price school lunch. Because the census occurs only once every ten years, the other indicators help monitor changes in child poverty from 1991 through 1993. (However, not all eligible children participate in these programs.)

According to the 1990 census, 12.4% of children in Minnesota were living below the poverty line, a 22% increase from the 1980 census. Children of color are much more likely to be poor than are white children.

According to the census, poverty rates for children of color in Minnesota ranged from 31% for Hispanic children to 55% for American Indian children. Child poverty rates also vary greatly among Minnesota counties, ranging from less than 5% to higher than 30%.

In 1993, 125,267 Minnesota children received AFDC, an increase of 8% since 1991. Only 37 counties had an increase in children on AFDC between 1992 and 1993, most of that increase was in Ramsey and Hennepin counties. **Over 40% of the children receiving AFDC are children of color**, and the number of children of color receiving AFDC has increased 13% since 1991.

From 1991 to 1993, there were modest increases in the numbers of children approved for free or reduced-price school lunch. In the 1993-94 school year, 224,860 students enrolled in the free and reduced-price school lunch program, a 7% increase since 1991-92. This means that at least 28% of Minnesota students came from low-income families. Data on the race of students participating in this program is not available.

Birth Circumstances and Health

The 1996 KIDS COUNT Data Book looks at three indicators of birth circumstances and health: children born to teenage mothers, children born at low birth weight, and children who were not fully immunized. These indicators affect children's future development and potential.

The percent of all births that were teen births has increased slightly since 1991 for both white mothers and mothers of color. Over 1,900 children were born to mothers who were under 18 years old. Thirty-four percent of all teen births in 1993 were to mothers of color. Among counties, rates ranged from over 6% of all births to two counties that had no birth to teens.

In 1993, 3,320 children, or 5.1% of all children born, weighed less than 2500 grams. Eight percent of children of color were born at low birth weight. These numbers have fluctuated only slightly since 1991. However, **the percent of African-American children born at low birth weight decreased since 1991, from 12.2% to 9.9%.**

In the 1992-93 school year, the State Department of Health looked back at the immunization records of all state kindergartners. **Just over 39% had not been fully immunized by age two.** These figures vary greatly among counties, ranging from 22% to 57% not fully immunized. **The immunization rates for children of color are significantly lower than for white children.**

Signs of Trouble

Finally, the 1996 KIDS COUNT Data Book looks at four additional indicators of child well-being: children dropping out of school, children arrested for violent crime, children abused and neglected, and children dying violently. These indicators show the results of earlier failures to provide economic and social support for vulnerable families and children.

In the 1993-94 school year, an estimated 3.4% of the state's 7-12th grade students dropped out of school, a small decrease since 1992-93. (This decrease may be attributable to a change in the definition of dropouts.) **The state dropout rate for students of color was 10.8% for the 1993-94 school year.** The dropout rate also increases when viewed by grade. In the 1993-94 school year, 6.2% of eleventh graders and 6.9% of twelfth graders dropped out.

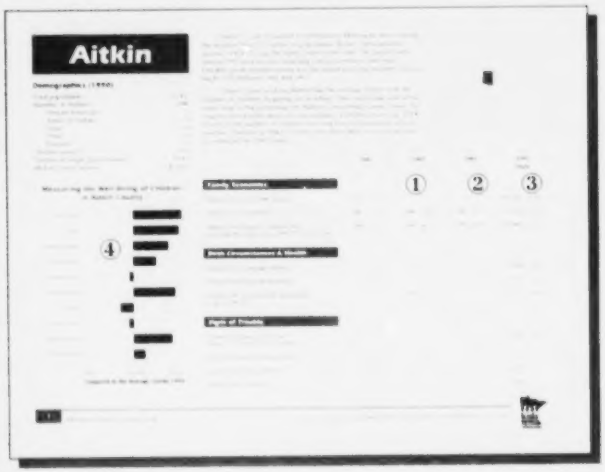
In 1993, 1,767 children were arrested for violent crimes (murder, rape, robbery, and aggravated assault,) an increase of 22% from 1991 to 1993. This represented almost 26% of all arrests for these crimes, a proportion that decreased slightly from 1992. **The number of children of color arrested for violent crimes increased at a slower rate of 18%** during those years.

In 1993, 11,058 reports of child abuse and neglect were confirmed, an increase of 7.6% since 1991. Children of color are overrepresented in reports of abuse and neglect, comprising 35% of substantiated reports in 1993.

In 1993, 204 children died violently in Minnesota. This included 27 suicides, 23 homicides, 75 motor vehicle crashes, and 79 other injuries. This number has fluctuated modestly between 1991 and 1993. Forty-one of those children were children of color.

Children's Defense Fund of MN, 550 Rice Street, Suite 205, St. Paul, MN 55103; 612/227-6121

Sample County Page



How to Read the Tables

① **Number of children.** It helps to know the actual number of children affected by a problem, as well as the percentage. Very small numbers in a category may fluctuate significantly from year to year, making interpretation difficult.

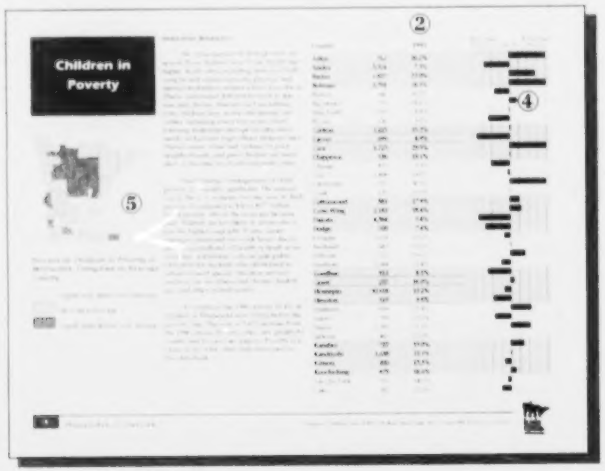
② **Percent of children** (compared to total population, total births, total school enrollment, etc.) Unless the number of children is very small, percentages provide useful comparisons across time.

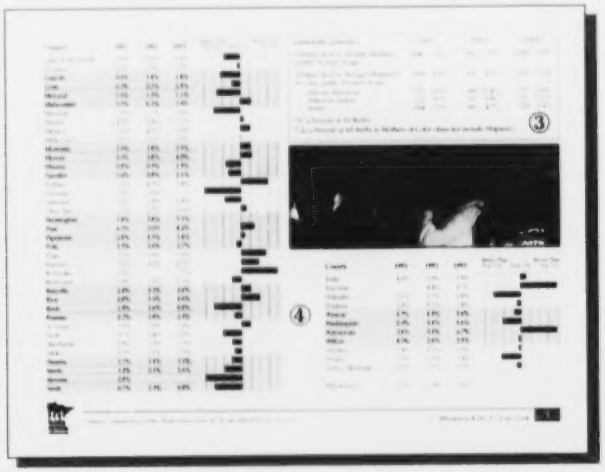
③ **State Average.** This number compares a county to the state as a whole.

④ **Bar Charts.** These charts allows comparisons of different indicators within a county, or of different counties for a single indicator. At a glance, a county can be compared to the "average county." (For more detail about the bar charts, please see the data notes at the end of the book.)

⑤ **Map.** The map ranks counties in thirds, allowing for regional comparisons. It can also help determine if a problem is concentrated in certain areas of the state.

Sample Indicator Pages





Discussion Questions for Minnesota Kids: A Closer Look, 1996 Data Book

These questions are designed for you to use as an individual reader or for group discussion. The questions suggest ways to think about and then use the large amount of information about children in this book. These questions are only a suggested outline. You know best how this data book can be used in your work and community.

DATA

1. Look at a specific indicator that particularly interests you. (Indicators are found on pages 4-25.) Is the data what you expected for Minnesota as a whole? How do counties compare with each other? Consider these factors:
   - the number of children affected
   - the percent change over time
   - differences among counties
   - differences among children of different races (For more information about data for children of color, please see page 6.)
   - what the indicator measures (See Data Sources, pages 115-116.)

2. Look at the indicators for the county where you live. (Counties are found on pages 28-114.) Is the data what you expected in your county? How does your county compare with Minnesota? Consider these factors:
   - the number of children affected
   - the percent change over time

   What factors might be involved in creating this picture and what do these numbers tell you about your county? Consider these factors:
   - the mix of your county's population between urban, suburban and rural
   - special efforts and programs addressing a particular program
   - greater or lesser community awareness about a problem
   - economic changes in the county over the last three years
   - population changes over the last three years
   - difficulties with data collection

3. As you review this information, what is missing? Is there additional information that would be useful, and is it available elsewhere? (A list of additional resources is on page 116.) For assistance locating data about a particular issue, call Children's Defense Fund-MN at 612/227-6121.

4. The indicators in this data book tend to focus on problems for children. Are there ways to also measure positive indicators of children's well-being in your community? Has your community taken steps to support families and provide opportunities for children?

COMMUNITY

5. Communities can be thought of in many different ways. While the data in this book is primarily grouped by county, there are other ways to work with this information within smaller communities. Examples of other communities include: regional, religious, cultural, or based on a special interest.
   - Who do you see as making up your community?

- Is it the same community you grew up in? A different community?
- What do you know about the children in your community?
- What makes your community a good place for children to grow up?

6. People are involved in their communities in many different ways.
   - How would you describe your role in your community?
   - How are children involved in your community?
   - Are you involved in decision making for your community and how?

CREATING CHANGE

7. This data is compiled to tell us about Minnesota's children, including how communities and individuals can improve their lives.
   - Who in your community is interested in this information?
   - How do you already work together for the benefit of children in your community?
   - What has already been accomplished in the areas that most concern you?
   - Where are decisions about children made for your community? (For example: city councils, foundations, county boards, school boards.)
   - How can community members influence decision making?
   - What other directions might we need to follow to be advocates for children?

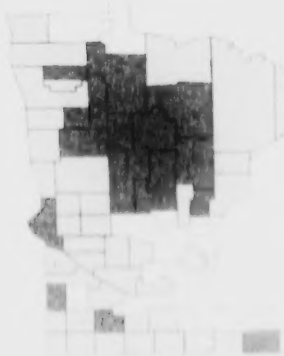
8. Not everyone reading this book will already be active as a children's advocate. Not everyone knows how to get involved in making changes happen.
   - Would you like to be involved in improving the lives of children?
   - Who do you already know who is working in this area?

   To receive the monthly CDF newsletter, call the Children's Defense Fund at 612/227-6121. To become a Child Advocacy Network Member, call Congregations Concerned for Children at 612/870-3660.

9. We need you to help us reach more people and make this data widely available.
   - Who else needs to have access to the information in this book?
   - Who else needs to be educated on the factors that improve or diminish children's lives? How can you reach them?

Please contact our office, and ask us to send informational materials. We are also available to speak to your group or organization. You can call us at Congregations Concerned for Children (612/870-3660, x128), e-mail us at *hn3215@handsnet.org* or write to us at Congregations Concerned for Children (address in the resource section).

Children in Poverty



Percent of Children in Poverty in Minnesota, Compared to Average County

- Significantly Better Than Average
- At or Near Average
- Significantly Worse Than Average

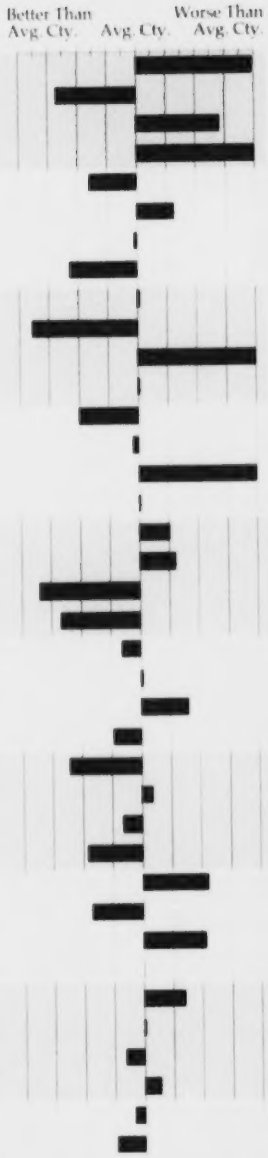
Indicator Analysis

The consequences of child poverty are severe. Poor children have worse health and higher death rates, including more low birth weights and stunted growth, physical and mental disabilities, missed school days due to illness, nutritional deficiencies such as anemia, and chronic diseases such as asthma. Poor children have worse educational outcomes, including lower test scores, more learning disabilities and special education needs, and greater high school dropout rates. There is more crime and violence in poor neighborhoods, and poor children are more likely to become involved in juvenile crime.

The economic consequences of child poverty are equally significant. The annual cost to the U.S. economy for one year of child poverty is estimated at $36 to $177 billion. Child poverty affects the economy because poor children are less likely to attain education for higher wage jobs. It also causes unemployment and lost work hours due to teenage parenthood, ill health or death at an early age. Additional costs include public education for students who fall behind in school or need special education services, medical care for illness and chronic disabilities, and other related factors.

According to the 1990 census, 12.4% of children in Minnesota were living below the poverty line. This was a 21.6% increase from the 1990 census. Poverty rates vary greatly by county and by race (see page 6). Poverty is a factor in all of the other indicators used in this data book.

County		1990
Aitkin	**763**	**26.2%**
Anoka	**5,324**	**7.3%**
Becker	**1,827**	**23.0%**
Beltrami	**2,791**	**28.2%**
Benton	940	10.5%
Big Stone	293	18.6%
Blue Earth	1,793	14.8%
Brown	630	8.5%
Carlton	**1,225**	**15.2%**
Carver	**699**	**4.9%**
Cass	**1,723**	**29.5%**
Chippewa	**536**	**15.1%**
Chisago	859	9.3%
Clay	1,808	14.5%
Clearwater	717	30.0%
Cook	135	15.1%
Cottonwood	**581**	**17.9%**
Crow Wing	**2,141**	**18.4%**
Dakota	**4,364**	**5.4%**
Dodge	**358**	**7.4%**
Douglas	1,018	13.2%
Faribault	682	15.2%
Fillmore	1,121	19.6%
Freeborn	1,044	12.4%
Goodhue	**912**	**8.1%**
Grant	**257**	**16.0%**
Hennepin	**30,918**	**13.2%**
Houston	**515**	**9.8%**
Hubbard	859	21.4%
Isanti	795	10.1%
Itasca	2,392	21.1%
Jackson	465	15.0%
Kanabec	**727**	**19.0%**
Kandiyohi	**1,638**	**15.1%**
Kittson	**200**	**13.3%**
Koochiching	**675**	**16.6%**
Lac Qui Parle	331	14.1%
Lake	302	12.3%



BEST COPY AVAILABLE

County		1990
Lake of the Woods	124	11.0%
LeSueur	582	8.6%
Lincoln	**322**	**18.3%**
Lyon	**750**	**11.2%**
McLeod	**664**	**7.2%**
Mahnomen	**527**	**34.3%**
Marshall	477	15.1%
Martin	871	14.4%
Meeker	744	12.3%
Mille Lacs	876	16.5%
Morrison	**1,672**	**18.2%**
Mower	**1,197**	**12.8%**
Murray	**415**	**15.9%**
Nicollet	**645**	**8.9%**
Nobles	683	13.0%
Norman	351	16.3%
Olmsted	2,136	7.3%
Otter Tail	2,169	16.4%
Pennington	**678**	**18.9%**
Pine	**910**	**15.8%**
Pipestone	**480**	**16.8%**
Polk	**1,467**	**16.3%**
Pope	516	17.5%
Ramsey	20,329	17.2%
Red Lake	213	15.8%
Redwood	704	14.6%
Renville	**857**	**17.5%**
Rice	**981**	**7.8%**
Rock	**427**	**15.3%**
Roseau	**544**	**11.8%**
St. Louis	7,417	15.7%
Scott	770	4.3%
Sherburne	906	7.0%
Sibley	520	12.8%
Stearns	**3,250**	**9.9%**
Steele	**669**	**7.7%**
Stevens	**377**	**15.2%**
Swift	**430**	**15.5%**

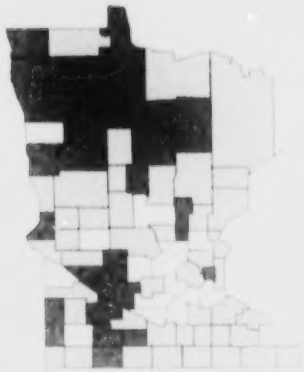
Statewide Statistics	1990 Census	
Children in Poverty	142,202	12.4%

In 1993, the Federal Poverty Line was:

Family of 2:	$ 9,430
Family of 3:	$11,890
Family of 4:	$14,350

County		1990
Todd	1,449	20.5%
Traverse	237	20.2%
Wabasha	525	9.3%
Wadena	840	23.0%
Waseca	**582**	**11.3%**
Washington	**2,394**	**5.5%**
Watonwan	**516**	**16.0%**
Wilkin	**255**	**12.4%**
Winona	1,218	10.5%
Wright	1,690	7.7%
Yellow Medicine	488	15.6%
Minnesota	142,202	12.4%

Children of Color in Poverty



Percent of Children of Color in Poverty in Minnesota

- 0 to 19% poor
- 20% to 49% poor
- more than 50% poor

Indicator Analysis

Since children of color in Minnesota are much more likely than white children to be poor, many other indicators related to poverty have a greater effect on children of color. In addition, because Minnesota's population is overwhelming white, data about the general status of children in Minnesota may not adequately reflect the situation for children of color.

It is important also to consider Minnesota's social, political and economic environments and how racial discrimination shapes those environments. Understanding that context will help communities seek solutions to child poverty and related problems. (For more information about data issues for children of color, see the data notes at the end of the book.)

According to the 1990 census, 8.5% (99,753) of Minnesota's children are children of color and 91.5% (1,068,156) are white. While most children of color (67.9%) live in Hennepin and Ramsey counties in the Twin Cities metropolitan area, at least some children of color live in each of the other 85 counties. Well over half of American Indian and Hispanic children live outside Hennepin and Ramsey counties. Some rural counties have also experienced an increase in children of color since the 1990 census, as families of color move to rural counties to obtain employment in local industries.

Forty-five percent of children of color lived in poverty according to the 1990 census. This included 49.5% of African-American, 55% of Indian and 37% of Asian children. In addition, 31% of Hispanic children lived in poverty. This compares to a poverty rate of just less than 10% for white children. In all but four Minnesota counties, the poverty rate for children of color is higher than for white children.

County	Children of Color		Hispanic		White	
Aitkin	**38**	**33.6%**	**24**	**68.6%**	**738**	**26.2%**
Anoka	**774**	**26.5%**	**124**	**12.3%**	**4,908**	**7.0%**
Becker	**485**	**59.5%**	**30**	**63.8%**	**1,373**	**19.1%**
Beltrami	**1,455**	**57.0%**	**85**	**73.3%**	**1,402**	**18.9%**
Benton	53	24.7%	0		896	10.2%
Big Stone	9	30.0%	0		290	18.7%
Blue Earth	182	48.9%	68	33.7%	1,691	14.2%
Brown	27	24.8%	31	33.3%	618	8.5%
Carlton	**248**	**44.6%**	**21**	**58.3%**	**1,025**	**13.5%**
Carver	**10**	**4.1%**	**4**	**5.5%**	**731**	**5.2%**
Cass	**717**	**64.3%**	**17**	**38.6%**	**1,041**	**21.8%**
Chippewa	**28**	**56.0%**	**45**	**95.7%**	**508**	**14.5%**
Chisago	32	20.9%	6	10.3%	864	9.4%
Clay	451	57.9%	297	58.6%	1,399	11.9%
Clearwater	196	72.9%	12	100.0%	530	24.8%
Cook	27	30.3%	0		110	13.6%
Cottonwood	**30**	**54.5%**	**11**	**32.4%**	**561**	**17.5%**
Crow Wing	**119**	**40.1%**	**37**	**30.1%**	**2,055**	**18.0%**
Dakota	**553**	**13.3%**	**272**	**17.2%**	**3,993**	**5.2%**
Dodge	**31**	**26.1%**	**32**	**43.2%**	**341**	**7.2%**
Douglas	21	20.0%	8	21.6%	1,027	13.5%
Faribault	62	39.0%	87	77.7%	642	14.8%
Fillmore	15	22.4%	12	34.3%	1,131	19.9%
Freeborn	140	40.9%	155	33.7%	961	11.8%
Goodhue	**88**	**31.5%**	**11**	**12.2%**	**878**	**8.0%**
Grant	**7**	**25.9%**	**2**	**100.0%**	**254**	**16.1%**
Hennepin	**19,337**	**46.5%**	**1,171**	**25.7%**	**12,368**	**6.4%**
Houston	**27**	**23.7%**	**4**	**18.2%**	**506**	**9.8%**
Hubbard	46	37.1%	5	33.3%	839	21.4%
Isanti	8	8.8%	0		818	10.4%
Itasca	416	71.2%	39	41.5%	2,046	18.9%
Jackson	77	52.4%	19	40.4%	396	13.3%
Kanabec	**23**	**23.2%**	**2**	**4.8%**	**715**	**19.1%**
Kandiyohi	**274**	**54.0%**	**484**	**71.6%**	**1,420**	**13.7%**
Kittson	**5**	**71.4%**	**15**	**65.2%**	**196**	**13.0%**
Koochiching	**68**	**28.1%**	**17**	**23.0%**	**693**	**17.7%**
Lac Qui Parle	2	7.7%	0		329	14.2%
Lake	0		0		330	13.5%

County	Children of Color		Hispanic		White	
Lake of the Woods	12	75.0%	12	100.0%	122	10.8%
Le Sueur	16	18.0%	12	17.1%	578	8.7%
Lincoln	**11**	**50.0%**	**4**	**100.0%**	**317**	**18.2%**
Lyon	**105**	**49.1%**	**85**	**65.9%**	**661**	**10.2%**
Mcleod	**65**	**34.4%**	**19**	**37.7%**	**867**	**6.9%**
Mahnomen	**289**	**58.7%**	**63**	**35.7%**	**621**	**22.9%**
Marshall	25	59.5%	5	100.0%	240	14.7%
Martin	31	20.3%	27	42.2%	460	14.6%
Meeker	18	13.7%	7	6.9%	734	12.3%
Mille Lacs	197	65.7%	14	18.9%	708	14.0%
Morrison	**4**	**4.8%**	**25**	**45.5%**	**1,688**	**18.5%**
Mower	**73**	**41.0%**	**43**	**37.1%**	**1,167**	**12.7%**
Murray	**0**		**0**		**423**	**16.2%**
Nicollet	**18**	**14.0%**	**42**	**42.4%**	**640**	**9.0%**
Nobles	117	38.7%	89	50.9%	589	11.8%
Norman	12	18.2%	12	30.0%	344	16.5%
Olmsted	650	40.4%	43	18.4%	1,558	5.6%
Otter Tail	92	36.7%	49	50.5%	2,134	16.3%
Pennington	**85**	**66.9%**	**82**	**89.1%**	**601**	**17.3%**
Pine	**73**	**36.1%**	**3**	**11.1%**	**864**	**15.5%**
Pipestone	**74**	**62.7%**	**14**	**56.0%**	**409**	**14.9%**
Polk	**230**	**57.6%**	**246**	**60.3%**	**1,251**	**14.5%**
Pope	0		0		526	17.9%
Ramsey	13,019	52.9%	1,428	26.8%	7,795	8.3%
Red Lake	32	76.2%	38	88.4%	187	14.3%
Redwood	83	52.2%	6	30.0%	638	13.6%
Renville	**73**	**53.7%**	**101**	**66.9%**	**792**	**16.6%**
Rice	**55**	**20.8%**	**71**	**51.8%**	**1,001**	**8.1%**
Rock	**19**	**38.0%**	**0**		**411**	**15.0%**
Roseau	**26**	**22.8%**	**6**	**60.0%**	**530**	**11.8%**
St. Louis	972	44.2%	37	31.4%	6,682	14.7%
Scott	78	16.1%	122	23.5%	720	4.2%
Sherburne	23	11.7%	39	0.0%	932	7.3%
Sibley	4	10.0%	0	62.7%	523	13.0%
Stearns	**237**	**43.7%**	**26**	**13.8%**	**3,089**	**9.5%**
Steele	**99**	**28.9%**	**140**	**55.8%**	**589**	**7.0%**
Stevens	**56**	**45.5%**	**14**	**38.9%**	**323**	**13.7%**
Swift	**9**	**32.1%**	**28**	**75.7%**	**427**	**15.5%**

Statewide Statistics	1990 Census	
Children of Color in Poverty (does not include Hispanic)	43,762	45.1%
African-American	17,394	49.5%
American Indian	10,459	54.8%
Asian	12,638	37.1%
Hispanic Children in Poverty	6,486	30.7%
White Children in Poverty	102,624	9.7%

County	Children of Color		Hispanic		White	
Todd	12	21.1%	13	68.4%	1,464	20.8%
Traverse	30	50.8%	6	100.0%	210	18.8%
Wabasha	7	29.2%	7	21.9%	538	9.6%
Wadena	21	43.8%	0		841	23.2%
Waseca	**24**	**25.3%**	**8**	**13.6%**	**577**	**11.4%**
Washington	**383**	**20.5%**	**148**	**15.3%**	**2,089**	**5.0%**
Watonwan	**139**	**52.9%**	**157**	**64.6%**	**385**	**13.0%**
Wilkin	**12**	**30.8%**	**21**	**58.3%**	**250**	**12.4%**
Winona	32	12.6%	10	11.8%	1,222	10.8%
Wright	12	4.0%	13	9.8%	1,816	8.3%
Yellow Medicine	27	36.0%	4	11.4%	468	15.3%
State	43,762	45.1%	6,486	30.7%	102,624	9.7%

Children Receiving AFDC

Percent of Children Receiving AFDC in Minnesota, Compared to Average County

- Significantly Better Than Average
- At or Near Average
- Significantly Worse Than Average

Indicator Analysis

Aid to Families With Dependent Children (AFDC) provides support to children and their adult caretakers, usually because of the absence of a child's father. The program also aids a smaller number of two-parent families where both parents are unemployed. The average grant to a Minnesota family in fiscal year 1993 was $423.88 per month.

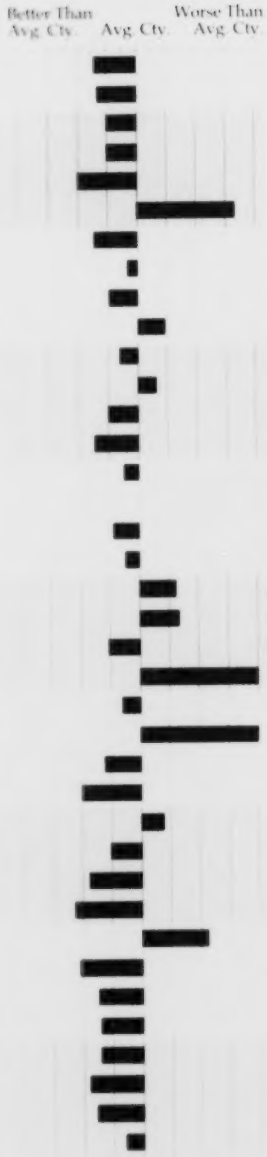
Approximately three out of every five individuals receiving AFDC are children; three fourths of whom live in families with one or two children. In fiscal year 1994, the average length of participation in the program was approximately three and a half years, although 36% of recipients left the program after less than one year.

Minnesota has taken significant action toward reforming AFDC through a program called Minnesota's Family Investment Program (MFIP). Implemented in seven counties in April 1994, and recently expanded to Ramsey County in 1995, MFIP has three objectives: to raise more children out of poverty, to reduce administration costs, and to offset the total cost of public assistance programs as recipients replace part of their grants with wages. A preliminary evaluation of MFIP shows that 31% of urban and 52% of rural families in the program were employed, compared to 14% and 34% for families in traditional welfare programs. Minnesota has also made a commitment to providing health care coverage while improving quality and reducing the costs of health care. A recent analysis of the MinnesotaCare Sliding Fee Health Program found it has caused a reduction of 2,400 families in the AFDC caseload through October 1994, saving taxpayers approximately $890,000 per month.

In 1993, 125,267 Minnesota children received AFDC, or approximately 11% of Minnesota children. (Because the number of children has increased since the 1990 census, the percent of children receiving assistance may actually be somewhat smaller.) There was a 6% increase in this number from 1991 to 1992, but a smaller increase of less than 2% between 1992 and 1993. Only thirty-seven counties had an increase in children receiving AFDC between 1992 and 1993, and much of the increase occured in Ramsey and Hennepin counties. Over 40% of the children receiving AFDC are children of color, and the number of children of color receiving AFDC has increased 13% since 1991.

County	1991	1992	1993
Aitkin	15.1%	16.8%	16.9%
Anoka	6.1%	6.7%	6.9%
Becker	14.7%	14.9%	13.8%
Beltrami	24.0%	26.0%	26.6%
Benton	7.1%	7.3%	7.5%
Big Stone	6.5%	6.2%	7.4%
Blue Earth	9.0%	9.6%	9.1%
Brown	4.1%	4.8%	4.8%
Carlton	10.6%	11.1%	10.5%
Carver	2.6%	2.9%	2.6%
Cass	19.5%	19.5%	20.1%
Chippewa	6.2%	7.0%	7.0%
Chisago	6.1%	7.3%	6.8%
Clay	13.9%	15.4%	16.7%
Clearwater	16.9%	17.3%	14.6%
Cook	4.4%	2.8%	2.7%
Cottonwood	6.7%	8.3%	9.2%
Crow Wing	12.6%	12.4%	12.4%
Dakota	4.7%	5.0%	5.3%
Dodge	3.9%	4.3%	5.3%
Douglas	6.0%	6.1%	5.7%
Faribault / Martin	8.3%	7.6%	7.7%
Fillmore	3.9%	4.6%	4.7%
Freeborn	8.9%	9.[illegible]%	9.3%
Goodhue	5.0%	4.4%	3.8%
Grant	7.9%	8.4%	7.6%
Hennepin	14.4%	15.5%	15.9%
Houston	4.3%	4.6%	5.2%
Hubbard	12.2%	11.6%	10.4%
Isanti	8.2%	8.6%	7.8%
Itasca	13.3%	14.0%	13.6%
Jackson	8.1%	8.2%	7.8%
Kanabec	9.9%	10.7%	10.9%
Kandiyohi	11.5%	12.7%	12.9%
Kittson	4.1%	3.9%	3.7%
Koochiching	9.1%	9.5%	9.4%
Lac Qui Parle	2.5%	2.7%	2.8%
Lake	8.6%	8.0%	7.8%

County	1991	1992	1993
Lake of the Woods	5.2%	5.6%	5.2%
LeSueur	5.1%	5.5%	5.4%
Lincoln	**5.7%**	**6.0%**	**6.1%**
Lyon	**5.7%**	**6.0%**	**6.1%**
McLeod	**3.6%**	**4.3%**	**3.9%**
Mahnomen	**18.7%**	**19.1%**	**16.0%**
Marshall	4.6%	5.3%	5.1%
Martin/Faribault	8.3%	7.6%	7.7%
Meeker	6.2%	6.2%	6.2%
Mille Lacs	10.7%	10.6%	10.6%
Morrison	**7.4%**	**7.3%**	**7.0%**
Mower	**9.4%**	**10.3%**	**9.9%**
Murray	**5.7%**	**6.0%**	**6.1%**
Nicollet	**4.9%**	**5.3%**	**5.0%**
Nobles	5.8%	6.7%	7.3%
Norman	6.1%	7.5%	8.4%
Olmsted	5.9%	6.2%	6.5%
Otter Tail	6.6%	7.5%	7.4%
Pennington	**11.3%**	**11.5%**	**11.2%**
Pine	**12.2%**	**12.3%**	**11.5%**
Pipestone	**6.7%**	**5.6%**	**6.1%**
Polk	**18.8%**	**19.2%**	**18.8%**
Pope	5.7%	6.4%	7.1%
Ramsey	17.3%	19.1%	20.4%
Red Lake	5.1%	6.6%	5.7%
Redwood	3.6%	3.2%	3.9%
Renville	**5.6%**	**8.0%**	**10.2%**
Rice	**5.3%**	**6.1%**	**6.1%**
Rock	**5.1%**	**4.5%**	**4.4%**
Roseau	**3.2%**	**3.3%**	**3.3%**
St. Louis	15.6%	14.3%	13.6%
Scott	3.3%	3.9%	3.7%
Sherburne	5.1%	5.2%	5.0%
Sibley	3.8%	3.9%	5.2%
Stearns	**5.1%**	**5.3%**	**5.2%**
Steele	**4.6%**	**4.7%**	**4.4%**
Stevens	**5.7%**	**5.3%**	**4.8%**
Swift	**7.5%**	**7.6%**	**7.1%**

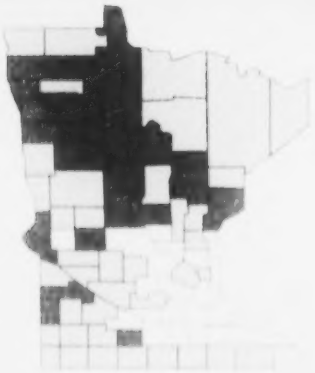


Statewide Statistics	1991		1992		1993	
Children Receiving AFDC*	115,511	9.9%	123,026	10.5%	125,267	10.7%
Children of Color Receiving AFDC	47,727		53,004		55,216	
African-American	22,065		24,788		25,971	
American Indian	9,894		10,240		9,656	
Asian	11,477		12,649		13,556	
Hispanic	4,291		5,337		6,043	

* As a percent of all children from 1990 census

County	1991	1992	1993
Todd	7.6%	7.9%	7.9%
Traverse	7.1%	7.9%	7.2%
Wabasha	4.7%	4.9%	4.1%
Wadena	11.0%	12.1%	11.3%
Waseca	**5.5%**	**5.8%**	**5.9%**
Washington	**4.2%**	**4.5%**	**4.5%**
Watonwan	**3.0%**	**7.2%**	**7.6%**
Wilkin	**10.2%**	**10.9%**	**11.0%**
Winona	6.4%	6.9%	6.5%
Wright	4.8%	5.3%	5.5%
Yellow Medicine	6.2%	6.4%	6.5%
Minnesota	10.1%	10.8%	11.0%

Children Approved for Free or Reduced-Price School Lunch



Percent of Children Approved for Free or Reduced-Price School Lunch in Minnesota, Compared to Average County

- Significantly Better Than Average
- At or Near Average
- Significantly Worse Than Average

(Note: This indicator is used as a measure of poverty.)

Indicator Analysis

Free or reduced-priced school lunches are available to children with family incomes below 185% of the federal poverty level. Children with family incomes below 130% of poverty receive free meals. Students with family incomes higher than 185% of poverty pay full price for their meals at school. Although not every eligible student participates, the number of children receiving free or reduced-price school lunches can indicate the number of low-income children in a school district.

The National School Lunch Program began in the United States in 1946 during World II when the U.S. Army found that many of its draftees were malnourished. Officials decided that providing lunch in school would be the best way to protect children from malnutrition. Research by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, which administers the School Lunch Program, shows that children who eat school lunches have higher nutritional intake compared to those who don't eat school lunch. Studies also show that low-income children who participate in the program receive one third to one half of their nutritional intake each day from eating school lunches.

The state of Minnesota actively promotes school meals. Sixty-three percent of public school districts serve school breakfast. The state is currently involved in a program promotion campaign called "We Serve Education Every Day" that includes billboards, newspaper ads, and public service announcements focusing on the benefits of school lunch. The campaign also includes training for food service workers to improve the nutritional content of school meals.

In the 1993-94 school year, 224,860 students were approved for the free or reduced-price school lunch program. This means that at least 28% of Minnesota students came from low-income families. Of that number, 168,580 received free meals, which means that at least 22% of Minnesota students came from families with very low incomes. The proportion of students approved for free and reduced price lunches has increased about 7% since the 1991-92 school year. All but 16 counties saw an increase in program participation from 1992-93 to 1993-94.

County	1991	1992	1993
Aitkin	**55.2%**	**56.5%**	**46.6%**
Anoka	**15.8%**	**17.1%**	**18.9%**
Becker	**39.3%**	**41.8%**	**41.5%**
Beltrami	**36.3%**	**38.6%**	**42.1%**
Benton	23.4%	22.9%	23.8%
Big Stone	46.6%	49.3%	48.6%
Blue Earth	22.6%	23.9%	23.6%
Brown	21.8%	22.3%	23.2%
Carlton	**30.8%**	**30.5%**	**30.8%**
Carver	**11.6%**	**12.9%**	**12.9%**
Cass	**53.3%**	**51.8%**	**56.6%**
Chippewa	**28.3%**	**29.3%**	**29.5%**
Chisago	22.9%	25.8%	23.9%
Clay	28.2%	29.4%	30.2%
Clearwater	45.2%	47.0%	49.9%
Cook	16.5%	14.2%	14.0%
Cottonwood	**31.2%**	**34.1%**	**34.3%**
Crow Wing	**33.1%**	**32.4%**	**33.1%**
Dakota	**11.2%**	**12.4%**	**12.5%**
Dodge	**20.4%**	**21.7%**	**22.3%**
Douglas	28.5%	30.2%	29.4%
Faribault	27.6%	30.1%	31.0%
Fillmore	28.3%	28.9%	30.1%
Freeborn	24.2%	25.7%	28.5%
Goodhue	**16.5%**	**16.2%**	**16.7%**
Grant	**32.7%**	**33.3%**	**32.5%**
Hennepin	**27.0%**	**28.3%**	**33.4%**
Houston	**20.2%**	**21.5%**	**21.4%**
Hubbard	39.4%	42.2%	47.0%
Isanti	25.4%	25.0%	28.8%
Itasca	37.7%	34.4%	35.3%
Jackson	31.4%	32.4%	36.6%
Kanabec	**34.2%**	**33.6%**	**34.6%**
Kandiyohi	**32.8%**	**29.6%**	**30.5%**
Kittson	**33.5%**	**35.2%**	**35.6%**
Koochiching	**26.0%**	**30.0%**	**26.5%**
Lac Qui Parle	32.9%	34.6%	35.5%
Lake	26.8%	32.3%	32.7%

Children's Defense Fund of MN, 550 Rice Street, Suite 205, St. Paul, MN 55103; 612/227-6121

County	1991	1992	1993
Lake of the Woods	41.4%	43.5%	44.0%
LeSueur	23.0%	22.8%	25.6%
Lincoln	38.4%	39.9%	42.0%
Lyon	28.0%	27.0%	27.9%
McLeod	17.3%	18.3%	19.5%
Mahnomen	66.6%	65.3%	66.4%
Marshall	40.8%	38.8%	38.6%
Martin	31.0%	30.4%	32.1%
Meeker	27.1%	27.8%	29.5%
Mille Lacs	34.6%	33.8%	36.3%
Morrison	44.5%	44.4%	44.4%
Mower	26.5%	27.5%	28.0%
Murray	28.1%	27.9%	32.5%
Nicollet	23.1%	23.9%	23.4%
Nobles	28.7%	27.9%	29.2%
Norman	39.5%	40.0%	40.6%
Olmsted	16.6%	17.9%	17.8%
Otter Tail	30.7%	31.1%	31.3%
Pennington	37.4%	36.2%	36.4%
Pine	38.7%	38.8%	39.7%
Pipestone	30.8%	32.8%	32.2%
Polk	35.5%	35.8%	37.0%
Pope	32.7%	40.8%	43.6%
Ramsey	35.7%	33.0%	35.3%
Red Lake	45.0%	49.2%	47.1%
Redwood	26.7%	28.5%	29.9%
Renville	26.8%	29.8%	30.7%
Rice	25.2%	23.6%	21.5%
Rock	26.2%	27.3%	27.6%
Roseau	29.3%	31.2%	32.4%
St. Louis	28.0%	28.0%	28.7%
Scott	12.5%	12.1%	12.5%
Sherburne	15.6%	16.3%	15.9%
Sibley	22.4%	24.4%	28.3%
Stearns	25.6%	25.5%	25.2%
Steele	18.3%	21.0%	22.2%
Stevens	26.1%	24.7%	26.3%
Swift	34.8%	34.2%	36.0%

Statewide Statistics	1991-92		1992-93		1993-94	
Number of Students Approved for Free or Reduced Price School Lunch	198,407	25.6%	206,381	26.0%	224,860	27.6%
Percent Approved for Free Lunch	147,797	19.1%	154,422	19.5%	168,580	20.7%

County	1991	1992	1993
Todd	47.1%	43.6%	44.9%
Traverse	38.5%	40.2%	40.0%
Wabasha	19.6%	20.8%	20.9%
Wadena	46.6%	43.9%	46.8%
Waseca	23.4%	24.8%	26.2%
Washington	11.3%	11.7%	11.8%
Watonwan	33.8%	37.6%	40.5%
Wilkin	35.2%	34.7%	35.7%
Winona	23.1%	23.3%	24.3%
Wright	17.4%	18.9%	18.1%
Yellow Medicine	37.1%	39.8%	39.4%
Minnesota	25.6%	30.0%	27.6%

Children Born to Teenage Mothers

Percent of Children Born to Teenage Mothers in Minnesota, Compared to Average County

- Significantly Better Than Average
- At or Near Average
- Significantly Worse Than Average

Indicator Analysis

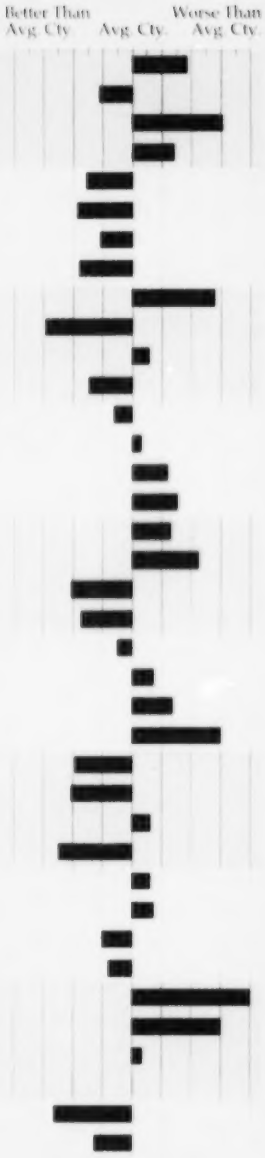
Early childbearing has a lasting impact on the lives and future opportunities of young mothers and their children. Teen pregnancy and births represent significant health risks for both the teen mother and the baby. The mothers are likely to delay receiving prenatal care, and babies are more likely to have medical complications. Young mothers are more likely than other teenagers to come from economically and socially disadvantaged backgrounds. Approximately 70% of teen mothers complete high school by the time they are 35-39, compared with 90% of women who wait until they are older to have children. Often, young women who begin childbearing in their teens have lower family incomes than those who postpone their first birth.

Young parents need intensive help to overcome these impacts. Assistance in Minnesota includes teen parent programs in public and alternative schools, mentor relationships with community volunteers, and Early Childhood Family Education programs for teen parents.

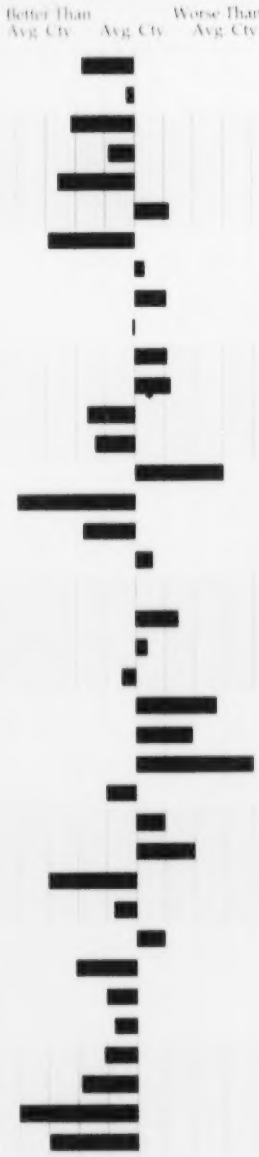
Many communities in Minnesota have teen pregnancy prevention task forces or coalitions. These may provide academic support, school-based sexuality education, accessible and affordable health care, community role models, counseling services, school-to-work training, religious involvement, and parent education on how to talk to children about sexuality. The Legislature has funded new male responsibility programs that educate boys about the responsibility of becoming a father. They also funded MN ENABL (Education Now and Babies Later), a community-based program to encourage 12 to 14-year-olds to postpone sexual behavior.

Teen births have increased only slightly as a percent of total births in the state. In 1991, 2.7% of all births, or 1,840 births, were to mothers under 18. In 1993, that number increased to 3.0% or 1,958 births, although the increase between 1992 and 1993 was only one tenth of a percent, or 47 births. Ten percent of mothers of color were teenagers in 1993, an increase from 9.6% in 1991. Thirty-four percent of all teen births in 1993 were to mothers of color. Among counties, rates ranged from over 6% of all births to two counties that had no births to teens.

County	1991	1992	1993
Aitkin	2.6%	3.1%	4.5%
Anoka	2.4%	2.2%	2.2%
Becker	4.6%	5.1%	5.4%
Beltrami	3.5%	5.5%	4.2%
Benton	0.8%	2.4%	1.9%
Big Stone	1.4%		1.7%
Blue Earth	2.3%	1.2%	2.2%
Brown	2.3%	1.2%	1.7%
Carlton	2.6%	4.6%	5.2%
Carver	1.6%	0.9%	0.9%
Cass	5.4%	3.3%	3.5%
Chippewa	0.0%	1.2%	2.0%
Chisago	2.1%	1.9%	2.6%
Clay	3.5%	2.7%	3.3%
Clearwater	3.3%	4.7%	4.0%
Cook			4.3%
Cottonwood	2.2%	3.9%	4.1%
Crow Wing	3.3%	3.9%	4.8%
Dakota	1.3%	1.6%	1.5%
Dodge	3.1%	1.2%	1.8%
Douglas	1.7%	3.7%	2.7%
Faribault	2.3%	1.1%	3.6%
Fillmore	3.2%	0.7%	4.1%
Freeborn	3.8%	2.2%	5.3%
Goodhue	1.8%	3.1%	1.6%
Grant		1.6%	1.5%
Hennepin	3.3%	3.6%	3.5%
Houston	2.6%	1.1%	1.2%
Hubbard	3.2%	4.8%	3.6%
Isanti	2.6%	4.1%	3.6%
Itasca	4.7%	5.8%	2.3%
Jackson	0.8%	0.8%	2.5%
Kanabec	4.1%	5.8%	7.5%
Kandiyohi	4.0%	4.0%	5.3%
Kittson			3.3%
Koochiching	3.3%	4.0%	3.1%
Lac Qui Parle	2.0%	2.7%	1.1%
Lake		1.0%	2.1%



County	1991	1992	1993
Lake of the Woods	1.8%	3.0%	1.8%
LeSueur	2.8%	2.9%	2.9%
Lincoln	3.0%	1.4%	1.4%
Lyon	2.3%	2.2%	2.4%
McLeod	1.5%	1.5%	1.1%
Mahnomen	3.2%	6.2%	3.9%
Marshall	1.5%	2.7%	0.9%
Martin	4.1%	1.8%	3.3%
Meeker	2.2%	4.1%	3.9%
Mille Lacs	5.6%	3.1%	3.0%
Morrison	1.9%	3.8%	3.9%
Mower	5.0%	3.8%	4.0%
Murray	0.8%	0.9%	1.9%
Nicollet	1.6%	0.8%	2.1%
Nobles	1.0%	4.9%	5.4%
Norman	2.3%	1.0%	
Olmsted	1.6%	1.4%	1.8%
Otter Tail	1.7%	2.5%	3.5%
Pennington	3.4%	3.8%	3.1%
Pine	6.2%	3.0%	4.2%
Pipestone	2.8%	4.5%	3.4%
Polk	2.5%	3.8%	2.7%
Pope	1.5%	0.9%	5.2%
Ramsey	3.9%	4.2%	4.5%
Red Lake	2.2%		7.7%
Redwood	0.9%	2.7%	2.3%
Renville	2.4%	3.3%	3.8%
Rice	2.8%	3.5%	4.6%
Rock	2.5%	1.6%	0.8%
Roseau	2.2%	2.8%	2.5%
St. Louis	3.1%	3.0%	3.8%
Scott	1.7%	1.4%	1.5%
Sherburne	0.8%	2.5%	2.3%
Sibley	1.5%	2.3%	2.5%
Stearns	1.7%	1.4%	2.2%
Steele	1.2%	2.1%	1.6%
Stevens	2.8%		
Swift	0.7%	2.3%	0.8%



Statewide Statistics	1991		1992		1993	
Children Born to Teenage Mothers* (under 18 years of age)	1,840	2.7%	1,911	2.9%	1,958	3.0%
Children Born to Teenage Mothers** of Color (under 18 years of age)	618	9.6%	616	9.7%	633	10%
African-American	322	11.5%	389	13.4%	357	12.8%
American Indian	132	9.7%	122	9.9%	137	12.1%
Asian	164	7.3%	105	4.7%	139	5.9%

*As a Percent of All Births

**As a Percent of All Births to Mothers of Color (does not include Hispanic)

County	1991	1992	1993
Todd	4.0%	3.9%	3.5%
Traverse		4.4%	6.7%
Wabasha	2.1%	2.1%	0.8%
Wadena	2.8%	8.2%	2.8%
Waseca	1.7%	2.2%	2.6%
Washington	2.0%	1.4%	1.6%
Watonwan	2.8%	5.2%	6.7%
Wilkin	4.3%	2.6%	2.9%
Winona	3.4%	2.1%	2.9%
Wright	2.0%	2.3%	1.4%
Yellow Medicine	3.2%	3.7%	2.7%
Minnesota	2.7%	2.9%	3.0%

Children Born at Low Birth Weight

Percent of Low Birth-Weight Babies Born in Minnesota, Compared to Average County

- Significantly Better Than Average
- At or Near Average
- Significantly Worse Than Average

Indicator Analysis

Low birth weight is the major cause of infant illness and death in the United States. This term describes infants born weighing less than 2500 grams or 5.5 lbs., including those born prematurely (before 37 weeks). Long-term outcomes for these infants include higher rates of subnormal growth, adverse health conditions, and developmental problems.

Of $11 billion spent nationally on infant health care, approximately 35% ($4 billion) is spent on low birth weight infants. Most of these dollars are devoted to saving a small group of very tiny infants weighing less than 1500 grams. Factors associated with low birth weight include tobacco use during pregnancy, inadequate prenatal care, young mothers, and short intervals between pregnancies. Women of color and poor women are more likely to have low birth weight babies.

In Minnesota there are many ongoing efforts to advocate for healthy babies. The Healthy Mothers Healthy Babies coalition educates the public and influences legislation about maternal and child health issues. Project LID (Lower Infant Deaths) of the Minneapolis and St. Paul Health Departments has conducted community-based infant mortality reviews and makes recommendations for system changes to improve birth outcomes. The Infant Mortality and Child Abuse Prevention committee is a group of culturally diverse professionals that monitors community trends, legislative activities, and health and human service changes that impact families of infants and young children.

In 1993, 3,320 children or 5.1% of all children born in Minnesota weighed less than 2500 grams. Eight percent of children of color were born at low birth weight. These numbers have fluctuated only slightly since 1991. However, the percent of African-American children born at low birth weight decreased from 12.2% to 9.9%. Thirteen counties experienced consistent increases in low birth weight babies from 1991 to 1993.

County	1991	1992	1993
Aitkin	5.2%	1.5%	4.5%
Anoka	4.8%	4.8%	4.3%
Becker	4.1%	4.8%	5.1%
Beltrami	3.6%	4.9%	6.4%
Benton	4.8%	5.1%	6.6%
Big Stone	4.3%	2.8%	
Blue Earth	3.1%	3.2%	3.7%
Brown	6.6%	4.1%	3.4%
Carlton	2.9%	5.2%	5.2%
Carver	3.7%	4.3%	3.6%
Cass	6.4%	2.7%	6.3%
Chippewa	3.4%	4.9%	3.3%
Chisago	4.4%	4.2%	3.2%
Clay	4.6%	5.2%	5.9%
Clearwater	4.1%	4.2%	6.0%
Cook	2.2%	3.7%	6.4%
Cottonwood	3.6%	1.3%	6.1%
Crow Wing	4.6%	3.6%	4.8%
Dakota	4.4%	4.8%	5.0%
Dodge	5.5%	4.0%	4.4%
Douglas	6.1%	3.5%	3.3%
Faribault	7.3%	4.0%	4.8%
Fillmore	3.2%	4.8%	6.0%
Freeborn	8.1%	7.3%	6.4%
Goodhue	3.8%	5.2%	5.6%
Grant	1.8%	4.9%	
Hennepin	5.8%	5.6%	5.8%
Houston	1.9%	7.1%	2.0%
Hubbard	3.8%	7.2%	6.5%
Isanti	2.6%	3.2%	4.5%
Itasca	6.1%	3.1%	4.9%
Jackson	3.9%	4.2%	4.9%
Kanabec	10.2%	4.7%	3.8%
Kandiyohi	3.7%	4.3%	3.4%
Kittson	1.9%	6.1%	5.0%
Koochiching	3.8%	6.3%	5.2%
Lac Qui Parle	1.0%	2.7%	3.2%
Lake	4.2%	2.9%	2.1%

County	1991	1992	1993
Lake of the Woods	7.0%	0.0%	3.5%
LeSueur	6.2%	3.2%	2.9%
Lincoln	1.5%	7.1%	5.8%
Lyon	1.1%	5.3%	4.0%
McLeod	2.8%	4.1%	4.5%
Mahnomen	4.8%	3.7%	3.9%
Marshall	6.8%	2.7%	4.3%
Martin	4.4%	5.4%	4.4%
Meeker	2.6%	3.3%	5.0%
Mille Lacs	4.4%	6.6%	8.0%
Morrison	3.1%	5.4%	3.2%
Mower	5.0%	5.9%	5.3%
Murray	2.3%	1.8%	3.7%
Nicollet	4.8%	4.3%	5.0%
Nobles	4.5%	4.6%	5.0%
Norman	5.7%	5.2%	5.9%
Olmsted	4.3%	5.9%	5.9%
Otter Tail	5.2%	4.4%	4.9%
Pennington	4.0%	3.8%	3.7%
Pine	5.1%	3.8%	7.6%
Pipestone	4.1%	4.5%	3.4%
Polk	4.8%	4.6%	3.0%
Pope	4.6%	4.3%	3.1%
Ramsey	5.9%	4.9%	5.5%
Red Lake	6.7%	5.2%	7.7%
Redwood	2.2%	2.7%	4.6%
Renville	1.4%	3.8%	2.7%
Rice	4.0%	5.3%	5.4%
Rock	1.7%	3.2%	5.7%
Roseau	4.8%	5.6%	1.7%
St. Louis	4.8%	4.8%	5.1%
Scott	5.0%	4.9%	4.7%
Sherburne	4.7%	5.3%	5.1%
Sibley	4.5%	5.7%	5.0%
Stearns	5.6%	3.8%	3.7%
Steele	4.4%	7.2%	5.2%
Stevens	2.8%	4.7%	3.0%
Swift	2.1%	0.0%	1.6%

Statewide Statistics	1991		1992		1993	
Children Born With Low Birth Weight* (Less Than 2500 grams)	3,339	5.0%	3,211	4.9%	3,320	5.1%
Children of Color**	639	8.7%	586	7.9%	623	8.3%
African-American	406	12.2%	366	10.4%	348	9.9%
American Indian	93	5.7%	88	6.0%	100	7.2%
Asian	138	5.7%	131	5.4%	174	6.8%

* As a percent of all births

** As a percent of all children of color born (does not include Hispanic)

County	1991	1992	1993
Todd	6.2%	3.2%	8.8%
Traverse	5.7%	2.2%	6.7%
Wabasha	2.8%	6.3%	5.4%
Wadena	3.4%	7.0%	5.0%
Waseca	4.6%	3.9%	6.4%
Washington	4.5%	4.8%	5.2%
Watonwan	6.1%	5.7%	1.7%
Wilkin	5.4%	5.2%	10.7%
Winona	6.2%	3.6%	5.6%
Wright	4.2%	3.4%	5.9%
Yellow Medicine	3.2%	3.0%	4.8%
Minnesota	5.0%	4.9%	5.1%

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Children Not Fully Immunized by Age 2

Percent of Children Not Fully Immunized in Minnesota, Compared to Average County

- Significantly Better Than Average
- At or Near Average
- Significantly Worse Than Average

Indicator Analysis

Immunizations against preventable diseases such as measles, mumps, polio and whooping cough (pertussis) are one of the most important preventive health measures available. Except for clean water, no other intervention has had such a major influence on reducing child deaths and serious illness. Besides protecting children from unnecessary diseases that may have serious consequences, vaccines also offer a cost savings. Every dollar invested in an immunization program saves ten dollars in medical costs to treat disease and illness.

In the 1992-93 school year, the Minnesota Department of Health conducted a survey of all kindergartners to find out how many of them were immunized and at what age. The Department will conduct this survey again in three years. In Minnesota as a whole, 39.3% of kindergartners had not received all appropriate immunizations by age two. However, these figures vary greatly between counties, ranging from 22% to 57%.

Approximately 13% of children received no immunizations in the first four months after birth. This suggests that these children did not receive well-baby care after delivery. Counties also varied on the number of children not receiving these early immunizations, ranging from 2% to 22%.

The immunization rates for children of color are significantly lower than for white children. Sixty-two percent of African American children, 48% of American Indian children, 65% of Asian children, and 57% of Hispanic children were not fully immunized by two years of age. Almost 33% of children of color also were not immunized at four months, again suggesting a lack of post-delivery health care.

County	1992-93
Aitkin	**52.2%**
Anoka	**37.0%**
Becker	**38.5%**
Beltrami	**44.6%**
Benton	29.5%
Big Stone	38.3%
Blue Earth	21.9%
Brown	29.0%
Carlton	**41.2%**
Carver	**34.0%**
Cass	**41.3%**
Chippewa	**38.8%**
Chisago	46.5%
Clay	51.9%
Clearwater	48.6%
Cook	27.6%
Cottonwood	**39.4%**
Crow Wing	**39.9%**
Dakota	**37.3%**
Dodge	**45.1%**
Douglas	35.8%
Faribault	29.5%
Fillmore	34.8%
Freeborn	48.5%
Goodhue	**37.0%**
Grant	**36.2%**
Hennepin	**42.1%**
Houston	**43.6%**
Hubbard	49.2%
Isanti	47.2%
Itasca	44.4%
Jackson	31.9%
Kanabec	**47.9%**
Kandiyohi	**35.7%**
Kittson	**26.0%**
Koochiching	**45.7%**
Lac Qui Parle	34.3%
Lake	36.7%

County	1992-93
Lake of the Woods	56.9%
LeSueur	38.7%
Lincoln	31.4%
Lyon	48.7%
McLeod	41.4%
Mahnomen	37.8%
Marshall	33.0%
Martin	35.5%
Meeker	41.4%
Mille Lacs	48.8%
Morrison	36.8%
Mower	37.0%
Murray	41.1%
Nicollet	33.2%
Nobles	32.8%
Norman	49.4%
Olmsted	23.5%
Otter Tail	53.4%
Pennington	43.8%
Pine	49.5%
Pipestone	38.4%
Polk	43.8%
Pope	44.9%
Ramsey	46.3%
Red Lake	23.1%
Redwood	29.0%
Renville	32.2%
Rice	34.9%
Rock	32.1%
Roseau	46.6%
St. Louis	34.0%
Scott	37.1%
Sherburne	39.9%
Sibley	35.4%
Stearns	30.7%
Steele	33.9%
Stevens	31.0%
Swift	41.5%

Statewide Statistics	1992-93	
Kindergartners Not Fully Immunized by Age 2	41,943	39.3%
African-American	1,914	61.8%
American Indian	568	47.8%
Asian	1,469	65.0%
Hispanic (not included in other groups)	606	56.9%
Kindergartners Not Immunized at 4 Months	9,156	13.2%
Children of Color	2,520	33.1%

County	1992-93
Todd	39.2%
Traverse	29.2%
Wabasha	38.2%
Wadena	52.8%
Waseca	35.1%
Washington	32.7%
Watonwan	54.7%
Wilkin	50.8%
Winona	33.9%
Wright	40.7%
Yellow Medicine	41.6%
Minnesota	39.3%

Children Dropping Out of School

Percent of Children Dropping Out of School in Minnesota, Compared to Average County

- Significantly Better Than Average
- At or Near Average
- Significantly Worse Than Average

Indicator Analysis

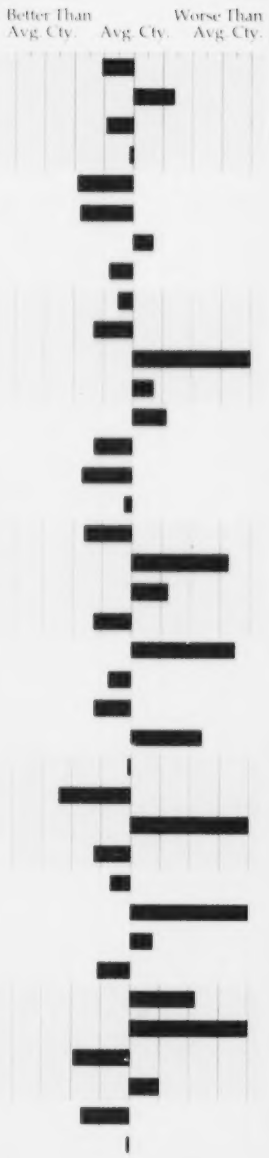
Eleven percent of children in the U.S. drop out of school each year and the consequences are significant. High school dropouts are more likely to be unemployed than are high school graduates and receive lower earnings when they are employed. Students who fail to complete school are also at increased risk of developing mental and physical problems and are more likely to require social services during their lifetimes.

The most recent reports from the U.S. Department of Education indicate that dropout rates are disproportionately higher for some American children. Twenty-five percent of students who drop out of school are from low-income families. In addition, dropout rates are 45% for low-income Latino/Chicano children and 24% for low-income African American children. Furthermore, 37% of children with disabilities drop out of school.

The significant benefits for students completing high school demonstrate the importance of taking action to reduce the number of students dropping out of school. To ensure that all students graduate, Minnesota school districts have developed Area Learning Centers and public and private alternative schools that are specifically designed to serve students at risk for dropping out. Students in 11th and 12th grades are also given post-secondary options that offer technical training in environments that differ from the regular school setting. In addition, various programs, such as the mental health initiative, co-location of services, and parent involvement, provide social and emotional support to students who face problems that interfere with educational success.

In the 1993-94 school year, an estimated 3.4% of the state's 7-12th grade students dropped out of school. This small decrease since 1992-93 may be attributable to a change in the definition of dropouts. Between 1991-92 and 1992-93 (when the definition of dropouts remained the same), 46 counties experienced an increase in dropouts. The state dropout rate for students of color was 10.8% for the 1993-94 school year. Sixty-five counties had a higher dropout rate for students of color than for white students. Fifteen counties had rates for students of color that were more than triple the state rate for students of color. The dropout rate also increases when it is viewed by grade. In the 1993-94 school year, 6.2% of eleventh graders and 6.9% of twelfth graders dropped out.

County	1991	1992	1993
Aitkin	2.1%	1.4%	1.2%
Anoka	2.6%	3.0%	3.2%
Becker	1.4%	1.8%	1.4%
Beltrami	2.3%	3.2%	2.0%
Benton	0.4%	0.8%	0.6%
Big Stone		0.5%	0.7%
Blue Earth	2.5%	2.9%	2.7%
Brown	1.5%	1.3%	1.4%
Carlton	3.4%	2.4%	1.7%
Carver	6.5%	4.7%	1.0%
Cass	5.8%	5.8%	6.5%
Chippewa	1.6%	2.4%	2.7%
Chisago	4.3%	3.6%	3.1%
Clay	1.3%	1.0%	1.1%
Clearwater	3.4%	3.0%	0.7%
Cook	1.7%	4.1%	1.9%
Cottonwood	0.8%	1.8%	0.8%
Crow Wing	4.4%	5.2%	4.8%
Dakota	2.9%	3.2%	3.1%
Dodge	0.7%	0.8%	1.4%
Douglas	1.6%	2.0%	4.9%
Faribault	1.1%	0.6%	1.5%
Fillmore	1.2%	1.1%	1.1%
Freeborn	4.2%	4.7%	4.1%
Goodhue	2.2%	2.5%	2.0%
Grant	0.7%	1.0%	0.1%
Hennepin	6.0%	7.1%	5.9%
Houston	0.6%	0.9%	1.1%
Hubbard	2.8%	3.0%	1.5%
Isanti	4.1%	5.6%	6.3%
Itasca	3.9%	2.2%	2.7%
Jackson	0.8%	2.1%	1.2%
Kanabec	3.8%	3.9%	3.9%
Kandiyohi	5.1%	8.7%	6.2%
Kittson	0.4%	1.0%	0.6%
Koochiching	2.5%	1.6%	2.9%
Lac Qui Parle	0.1%	0.2%	0.8%
Lake	1.1%	0.5%	2.0%

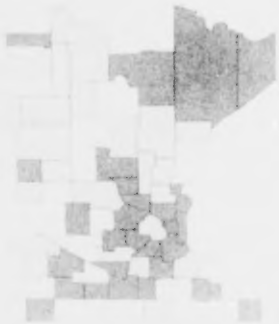


County	1991	1992	1993
Lake of the Woods	2.3%	0.9%	3.2%
LeSueur	1.3%	1.4%	1.3%
Lincoln	0.8%	0.4%	0.7%
Lyon	1.6%	1.7%	1.1%
McLeod	2.8%	2.0%	1.1%
Mahnomen	0.8%	5.2%	7.4%
Marshall	0.5%	0.3%	1.3%
Martin	1.2%	1.5%	1.5%
Meeker	1.2%	1.1%	1.0%
Mille Lacs	1.6%	1.7%	1.8%
Morrison	1.2%	1.4%	0.8%
Mower	3.5%	4.6%	4.0%
Murray	0.3%	0.1%	
Nicollet	1.8%	1.6%	1.6%
Nobles	3.2%	1.4%	2.7%
Norman	0.7%	1.2%	0.8%
Olmsted	2.6%	2.7%	1.8%
Otter Tail	2.8%	1.8%	2.4%
Pennington	0.5%	0.2%	1.7%
Pine	2.8%	3.6%	2.8%
Pipestone	0.2%	0.7%	1.8%
Polk	2.7%	2.6%	2.8%
Pope	0.7%	0.3%	0.2%
Ramsey	6.4%	8.0%	7.4%
Red Lake	0.9%	0.2%	0.2%
Redwood	1.0%	1.1%	0.4%
Renville	0.9%	1.8%	1.1%
Rice	3.6%	3.7%	3.2%
Rock	1.2%	0.7%	0.6%
Roseau	0.8%	0.7%	0.7%
St. Louis	4.1%	3.4%	3.5%
Scott	1.3%	0.9%	0.9%
Sherburne	3.1%	3.3%	2.7%
Sibley	2.3%	0.9%	1.7%
Stearns	1.2%	0.6%	1.0%
Steele	1.9%	1.9%	2.2%
Stevens	0.1%	0.4%	0.5%
Swift	1.2%	1.8%	1.2%

Statewide Statistics	1991-92		1992-93		1993-94	
Children Dropping Out of School	11,491	3.5%	13,640	3.9%	12,387	3.4%
Children of Color	3088	10.3%	4032	12.6%	3892	10.8%
African-American	1467	14.0%	1870	16.0%	1812	14.0%
American Indian	669	13.0%	844	15.6%	787	13.0%
Asian	456	4.5%	691	6.6%	612	5.4%
Hispanic	496	11.3%	627	12.5%	681	12.3%

County	1991	1992	1993
Todd	1.6%	1.2%	1.5%
Traverse		0.5%	0.3%
Wabasha	0.6%	1.0%	1.0%
Wadena	0.9%	1.4%	1.8%
Waseca	1.5%	1.5%	1.3%
Washington	3.9%	2.7%	2.7%
Watonwan	1.6%	2.7%	2.5%
Wilkin	1.2%	0.6%	1.9%
Winona	3.7%	3.1%	3.2%
Wright	1.8%	1.8%	1.8%
Yellow Medicine	1.0%	0.9%	0.9%
Minnesota	3.5%	3.9%	3.4%

Children Arrested for Violent Crime



Percent of Children Arrested for Violent Crime in Minnesota, Compared to Average County

- Significantly Better Than Average
- At or Near Average
- Significantly Worse Than Average

Indicator Analysis

Juvenile violent crime connects to other risk factors for children, as the 1995 Report from the Minnesota Legislature's Violence Prevention Advisory Task Force points out. "The high school dropout entering the juvenile justice system often started in poverty with a parent deprived of health care or proper nutrition who did not have the parenting skills to care for a child. If the early risk indicators could be mitigated, it is likely that the violent behaviors that arise from a lifetime of social and economic neglect could be eliminated." Specifically, studies have shown that maltreated children are 24% more likely to be involved in violent behavior later in life.

The cost of dealing with crime is enormous. According to the Minnesota Department of Corrections, the Minnesota adult prison population was 4,040 in 1993 with another 2,140 prison beds added by 1998. The average cost per prisoner in Minnesota state correctional facilities is $27,880 per year. The 1993 cost of homicide, rape, robbery, and assault in Minnesota was approximately $771 million (including medical, law enforcement, court system incarceration and other costs). Approximately 53% of violence-related program money from the State of Minnesota is spent on incarceration, probation and other sentencing options.

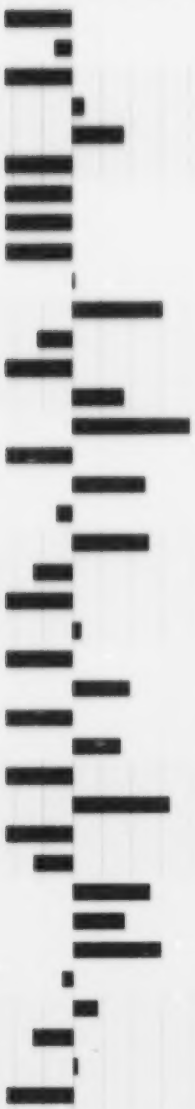
Many programs and community initiatives are working to reduce and prevent juvenile crime and violence. These include interventions to reduce child abuse, conflict resolution training in schools, mentoring initiatives, community-based policing and youth recreation and employment opportunities.

In 1993, 1,767 children were arrested for violent crimes (murder, rape, robbery, and aggravated assault) an increase of 22% from 1991 to 1993. This represented almost 26% of all arrests for these crimes, a proportion that decreased slightly from 1992. The number of children of color arrested for violent crimes increased at a slower rate of 18% during those years. Arrests for aggravated assault, the largest category, increased by 18.4% for juveniles as opposed to a 2% decrease for adults. Although murder is the smallest category of offenses, the percent of juveniles arrested for murder jumped 39% from 1991 to 1993. The adult murder arrest rate increased by 34% during that time. Counties varied greatly in the number and percent of juveniles arrested for violent crimes.

County	1991	1992	1993
Aitkin	50.0%	21.4%	14.3%
Anoka	39.7%	39.6%	38.4%
Becker	12.5%		11.8%
Beltrami	30.0%	15.2%	20.8%
Benton	12.5%	50.0%	44.4%
Big Stone			
Blue Earth	4.2%	8.9%	27.8%
Brown	9.1%	33.3%	7.1%
Carlton	20.0%	44.4%	14.3%
Carver	10.3%	42.9%	30.0%
Cass	17.9%		2.1%
Chippewa	14.3%		
Chisago	8.8%	9.1%	29.0%
Clay	10.9%	20.9%	20.0%
Clearwater		16.7%	11.1%
Cook		11.1%	
Cottonwood		5.6%	41.7%
Crow Wing	6.5%	15.2%	12.0%
Dakota	23.6%	27.8%	33.5%
Dodge	33.3%	20.0%	
Douglas	38.1%	11.1%	21.7%
Faribault	7.7%	40.0%	
Fillmore			
Freeborn	19.0%	25.0%	23.8%
Goodhue	5.3%	22.2%	24.5%
Grant		25.0%	25.0%
Hennepin	24.2%	24.3%	22.9%
Houston	20.0%	25.0%	30.8%
Hubbard		26.7%	22.2%
Isanti	14.3%		10.0%
Itasca	10.0%		53.6%
Jackson	14.3%	14.3%	
Kanabec	12.5%	11.1%	21.1%
Kandiyohi	34.0%	26.3%	38.8%
Kittson			
Koochiching	6.7%		
Lac Qui Parle			
Lake			25.0%

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

County	1991	1992	1993
Lake of the Woods			
LeSueur	20.0%	16.7%	12.5%
Lincoln			
Lyon	25.0%	18.2%	20.0%
McLeod	37.9%	28.2%	30.0%
Mahnomen			
Marshall		66.7%	
Martin		23.8%	
Meeker			
Mille Lacs	26.3%	9.5%	17.6%
Morrison	9.1%	6.7%	40.0%
Mower	7.9%	23.5%	8.1%
Murray			
Nicollet	26.7%	26.3%	30.0%
Nobles		47.6%	47.6%
Norman			
Olmsted	25.4%	36.5%	35.6%
Otter Tail	17.4%	29.6%	13.0%
Pennington	12.5%	8.7%	36.4%
Pine	11.1%		7.1%
Pipestone			
Polk	5.4%	11.8%	19.0%
Pope	43.8%	20.0%	
Ramsey	26.5%	32.2%	31.6%
Red Lake			
Redwood		15.4%	29.2%
Renville			
Rice	25.0%	41.2%	41.5%
Rock			
Roseau			7.1%
St. Louis	27.5%	30.8%	36.6%
Scott	24.0%	27.1%	30.2%
Sherburne	10.0%	14.3%	39.3%
Sibley			14.3%
Stearns	26.2%	22.1%	23.1%
Steele	37.5%	16.7%	6.7%
Stevens		33.3%	18.2%
Swift			

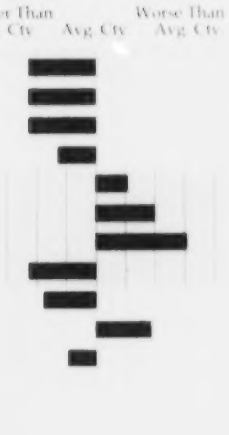


Statewide Statistics	1991		1992		1993	
Children Arrested For Violent Crimes* (murder, negligent manslaughter, rape, robbery and aggravated assault)	1,382	23.6%	1,662	26.4%	1,767	25.9%
Children of Color**	645	24.3%	714	26.0%	784	25.0%
African-American	512	24.2%	574	26.0%	603	24.5%
American Indian	98	22.6%	90	21.8%	103	22.1%
Asian	35	41.7%	50	39.1%	78	40.8%

* As a Percent of All Arrests for Violent Crimes

** As a Percent of People of Color Arrested for Violent Crimes (does not include Hispanic)

County	1991	1992	1993
Todd		14.3%	
Traverse			
Wabasha	33.3%		
Wadena	21.4%	11.1%	7.4%
Waseca	33.3%		25.0%
Washington	29.9%	39.3%	32.0%
Watonwan	23.1%		40.0%
Wilkin		60.0%	
Winona		14.0%	3.7%
Wright	3.0%	27.9%	31.0%
Yellow Medicine	12.5%	20.0%	10.0%
Minnesota	23.6%	26.4%	25.9%



Children Abused and Neglected

Number of Children Abused and Neglected in Minnesota, Compared to Average County

- Significantly Better Than Average
- At or Near Average
- Significantly Worse Than Average

* County totals are preliminary figures.

Indicator Analysis

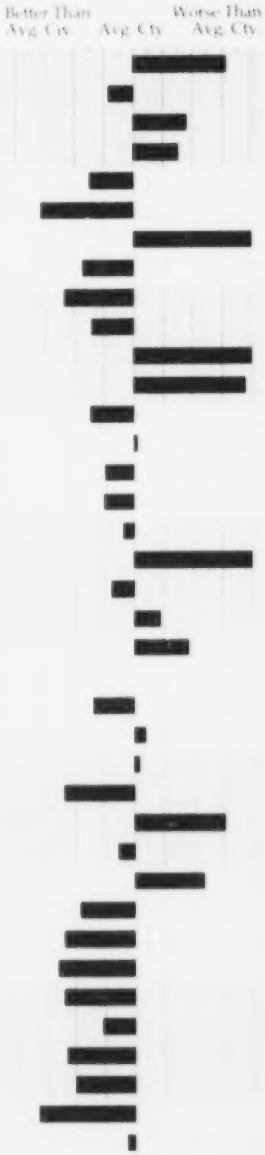
Child abuse and neglect can result in a lifetime of physical, intellectual, behavioral, and emotional problems. Young abused children are more likely to be socially withdrawn, physically aggressive, and have learning problems. As adolescents, they are more likely to be involved in crime, use drugs and alcohol, or attempt suicide. In adulthood, they are more likely to abuse their own children or commit a violent crime. Research has shown that 95% of prisoners who committed violent acts and 70% of all prisoners were abused or neglected as children. Fifty percent of the men who frequently assault their partners also abuse their children.

Child abuse and neglect is one indicator that a community has neglected to provide essential family support services. Abuse and neglect are also more likely when a family cannot meet its basic needs for food, shelter, medical care, and clothing.

Fortunately, there are ways to reduce child abuse and neglect. Parent education programs in Minnesota, such as MELD and Early Childhood Family Education, build skills. Home visiting programs, such as Way to Grow and the Public Health Projects to Prevent Child Abuse and Neglect, provide social support to parents before and after the birth of their child. Emergency programs such as crisis nurseries provide essential supports while families resolve their temporary, but urgent problems. Additionally, comprehensive family service centers being developed in many Minnesota communities can offer various services that families need, all in one place.

The number of substantiated reports of child abuse and neglect continued to increase in Minnesota between 1991 and 1993. In 1993, 11,038 reports were confirmed, an increase of 7.6% since 1991. Fifty counties experienced an increase in substantiated reports between 1992 and 1993. Children of color are over-represented in reports of abuse and neglect, comprising 35% of substantiated reports in 1993.

County	1991	1992	1993*
Aitkin	22	17	50
Anoka	401	490	517
Becker	71	53	109
Beltrami	90	109	131
Benton	52	38	48
Big Stone	13	3	2
Blue Earth	188	215	286
Brown	32	32	35
Carlton	34	14	26
Carver	56	64	80
Cass	90	83	114
Chippewa	41	52	66
Chisago	65	47	51
Clay	101	126	118
Clearwater	13	11	16
Cook	15	7	6
Cottonwood	57	43	27
Crow Wing	206	225	260
Dakota	585	576	588
Dodge	21	37	55
Douglas	155	114	106
Faribault	66	57	41
Fillmore	30	38	32
Freeborn	101	119	86
Goodhue	85	86	109
Grant	2	14	5
Hennepin	3,048	3,692	3,983
Houston	14	36	41
Hubbard	62	66	61
Isanti	33	22	36
Itasca	24	14	36
Jackson	12	21	8
Kanabec	9	11	12
Kandiyohi	77	92	70
Kittson	1	5	5
Koochiching	25	18	17
Lac Qui Parle	4	8	2
Lake	12	25	21

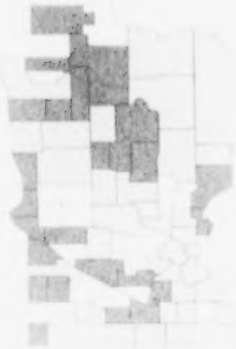


County	1991	1992	1993
Lake of the Woods	4	19	8
LeSueur	44	34	62
Lincoln	8	14	18
Lyon	41	37	86
McLeod	113	132	129
Mahnomen	29	11	23
Marshall	12	11	46
Martin	28	48	57
Meeker	11	13	19
Mille Lacs	84	79	51
Morrison	45	51	40
Mower	54	54	58
Murray	8	19	13
Nicollet	249	147	118
Nobles	49	45	44
Norman	10	13	9
Olmsted	158	188	176
Otter Tail	137	115	114
Pennington	8	6	7
Pine	11	10	17
Pipestone	24	65	48
Polk	147	150	158
Pope	25	57	38
Ramsey	1,233	1,399	1,377
Red Lake	3	3	6
Redwood	23	15	68
Renville	28	27	45
Rice	23	73	98
Rock	11	24	41
Roseau	16	12	17
St. Louis	510	513	468
Scott	140	158	138
Sherburne	41	48	58
Sibley	37	43	73
Stearns	106	126	137
Steele	100	139	71
Stevens	5	12	5
Swift	28	18	33

Statewide Statistics	1991	1992	1993
Children Abused and Neglected (reports substantiated by county agencies)	10,224	11,217	11,058
Children of Color (includes Hispanic)	3,318	*not available*	3,816
African-American	1,768		2,273
American Indian	909		870
Asian	217		195
Hispanic	424		478

County	1991	1992	1993
Todd	43	35	31
Traverse	10	27	13
Wabasha	36	31	54
Wadena	89	43	44
Waseca	38	22	25
Washington	219	226	200
Watonwan	29	20	47
Wilkin	35	17	15
Winona	69	121	86
Wright	119	74	82
Yellow Medicine	21	33	44
Minnesota	10,224	11,217	11,058

Children Dying Violently



Number of Children Dying Violently in Minnesota, Compared to Average County

- Significantly Better Than Average
- At or Near Average
- Significantly Worse Than Average

Indicator Analysis

When a child is murdered by another child or adult, or when a child commits suicide, nothing will bring that child back to life. Although relatively few children die each year in Minnesota, each death is an irrecoverable loss.

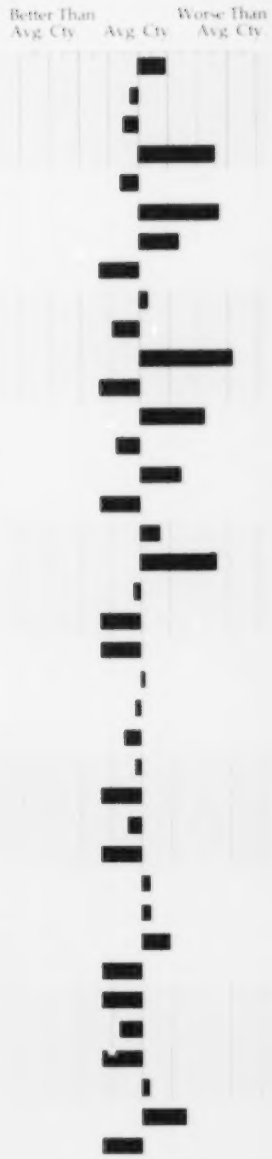
While deaths by homicide and suicide often attract more attention, the leading cause of child death is unintentional injuries. The most common are motor vehicle crashes (children as occupants, pedestrians and bicyclists), drowning, fires and burns, suffocation, poisoning and choking, unintentional shootings, and falls. Many children also suffer lifelong disabilities from unintentional injuries. The death or injury of a child affects their family emotionally, physically and financially as well costing Minnesota millions of dollars in health care costs.

Research has consistently shown that injuries occur at higher rates among children of color and low-income children. These children are more likely to live in impoverished environments and lack access to safety devices such as smoke detectors.

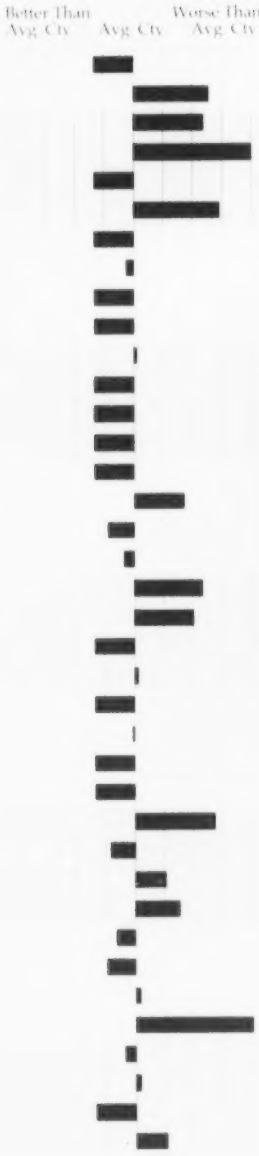
Minnesota SAFE KIDS is a coalition of over 140 agencies throughout Minnesota, working to halt the senseless death and disability to children from preventable causes. Working together, the coalition incorporates expertise from each participating agency to develop and promote quality injury prevention efforts throughout Minnesota. Efforts include distributing low- or no-cost child safety seats, bike helmets and smoke detectors to low-income families in Minnesota. Over 130 agencies operate child car seat distribution programs in the state. Minnesota SAFE KIDS members have also developed many safety educational programs that are implemented in schools, park and recreation programs, and hospitals.

In 1993, 204 children died violently in Minnesota. This included 27 suicides, 23 homicides, 75 motor vehicle crashes, and 79 other injuries. This number has fluctuated somewhat between 1991 and 1993. Forty-one of those children were children of color. Because of the very small number of deaths compared to the total population of children, comparisons over time for most counties should be interpreted with care.

County	1991	1992	1993
Aitkin	1	1	1
Anoka	7	13	12
Becker	2	6	1
Beltrami	2	2	6
Benton	3	0	1
Big Stone	0	0	1
Blue Earth	1	3	5
Brown	2	1	0
Carlton	3	1	2
Carver	3	7	1
Cass	4	0	4
Chippewa	1	0	0
Chisago	2	4	5
Clay	2	1	1
Clearwater	1	2	1
Cook	0	1	0
Cottonwood	0	0	1
Crow Wing	5	0	7
Dakota	5	13	14
Dodge	3	2	0
Douglas	0	4	0
Faribault	1	0	1
Fillmore	0	0	1
Freeborn	2	1	1
Goodhue	3	0	2
Grant	0	1	0
Hennepin	35	37	32
Houston	1	1	0
Hubbard	0	0	1
Isanti	4	2	2
Itasca	3	3	4
Jackson	0	1	0
Kanabec	2	1	0
Kandiyohi	6	0	1
Kittson	1	0	0
Koochiching	3	3	1
Lac Qui Parle	0	0	1
Lake	0	0	0

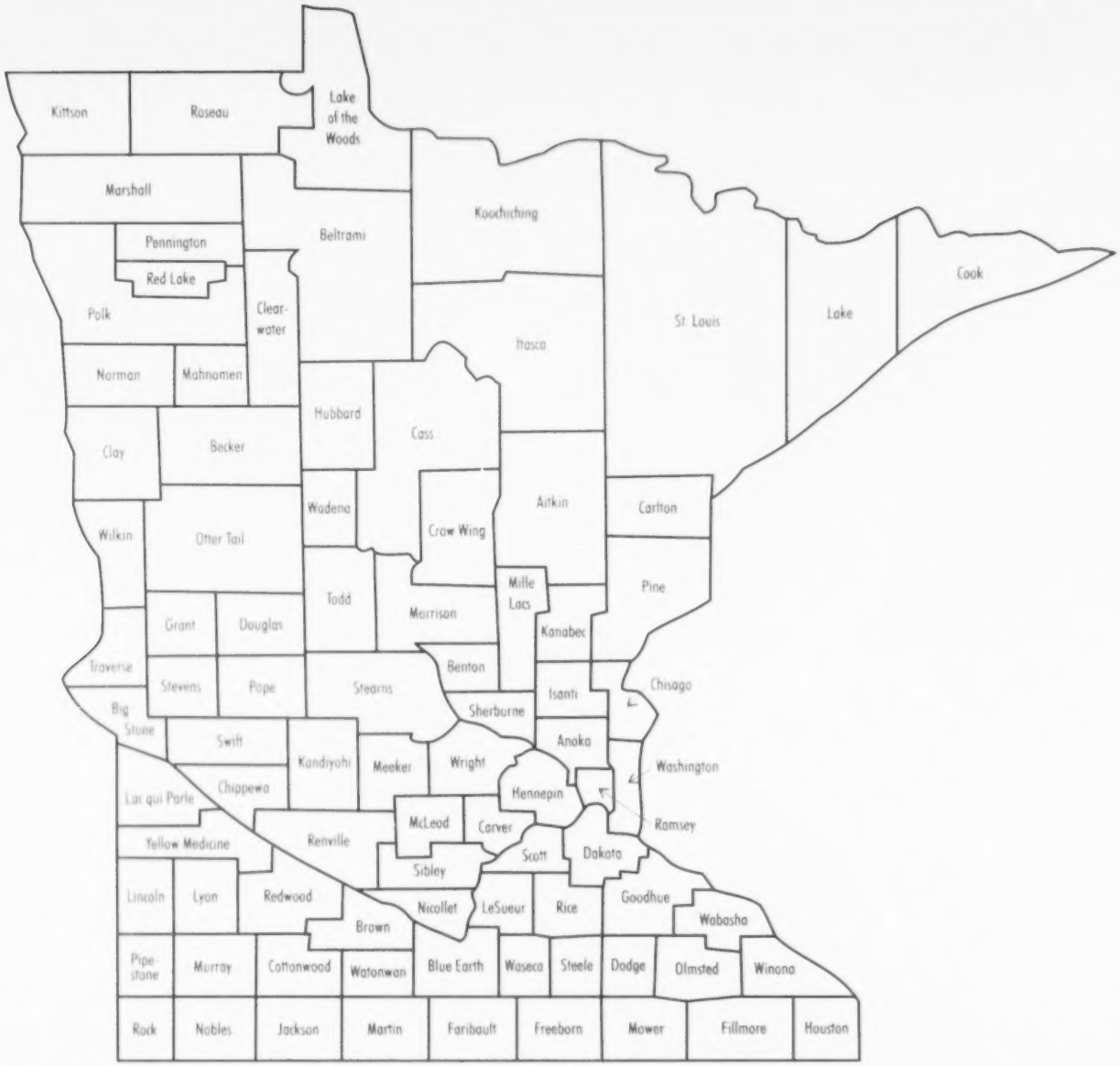


County	1991	1992	1993
Lake of the Woods	0	0	0
LeSueur	1	2	4
Lincoln	0	0	1
Lyon	2	2	6
McLeod	4	3	0
Mahnomen	1	0	1
Marshall	0	2	0
Martin	0	2	1
Meeker	3	4	0
Mille Lacs	0	0	0
Morrison	3	3	2
Mower	2	1	0
Murray	0	1	0
Nicollet	1	1	0
Nobles	0	1	0
Norman	0	0	1
Olmsted	6	2	2
Otter Tail	1	2	2
Pennington	0	0	2
Pine	0	1	3
Pipestone	0	1	0
Polk	2	2	2
Pope	0	1	0
Ramsey	13	20	23
Red Lake	0	0	0
Redwood	0	0	0
Renville	2	0	3
Rice	3	1	1
Rock	0	1	1
Roseau	3	1	2
St. Louis	11	12	5
Scott	3	2	1
Sherburne	2	4	3
Sibley	0	0	4
Stearns	7	7	5
Steele	2	1	2
Stevens	0	0	0
Swift	2	1	1



Statewide Statistics	1991	1992	1993
Children Dying Violently	199	213	204
Murder	21	20	23
Suicide	28	39	27
Motor Vehicle Crashes	73	84	75
Children of Color (does not include Hispanic)	30	32	41

County	1991	1992	1993
Todd	0	4	2
Traverse	0	0	1
Wabasha	0	2	0
Wadena	1	1	3
Waseca	1	0	1
Washington	7	8	0
Watonwan	1	0	5
Wilkin	1	0	1
Winona	2	1	1
Wright	4	3	1
Yellow Medicine	0	2	1
Minnesota	199	213	204



Children's Defense Fund of MN, 550 Rice Street, Suite 205, St. Paul, MN 55103; 612/227-6121

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Minnesota

Demographics (1990)

Total population	4,424,763
Number of children	1,167,909
African-American	36,541
American Indian	19,920
Asian	34,376
Other	8,916
Hispanic	21,613
Children under 6	406,751
Children in single parent homes	16.2%
Median family income	$30,111

Minnesota is the twentieth largest state in the United States. The per capita personal income in 1993 was $20,979, nineteenth in the country and slightly higher than the national average. The largest industries in 1993 were services (25%), durable goods manufacturing (13%), and state and local government (12%). Finance, insurance and real estate was the fastest growing industry, increasing 9% between 1992 and 1993.

Minnesota in general experienced little change for most indicators of well-being over the last three years. However, both the rates of arrests for children's violent crimes and substantiated reports of child abuse and neglect are increasing rapidly. In the most recent national KIDS COUNT data book, which used 1992 figures, Minnesota ranked eighth best in the nation. Although we ranked fourth best in our percent of children born with low birth weight, and seventh for high school drop-outs, we slipped to fourteenth in juvenile arrests for violent crimes and twenty-seventh for the percent of children in poverty.

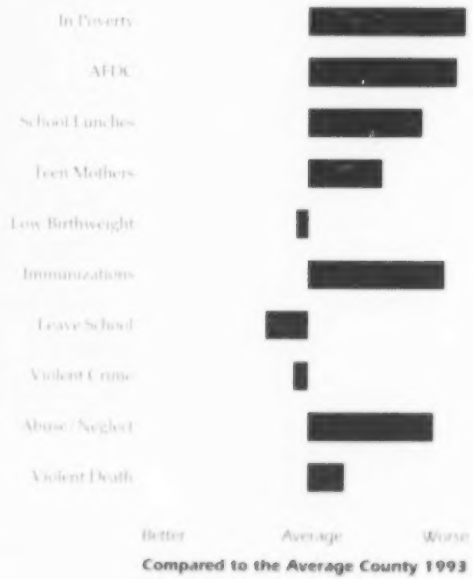
	1991		1992		1993	
Family Economics						
Children in poverty (1990 census)	142,202	12.4%				
Children receiving AFDC	115,508	9.9%	123,019	10.5%	125,260	10.7%
Children eligible for free/reduced-price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	198,407	25.6%	206,381	26.0%	224,860	27.6%
Birth Circumstances & Health						
Children born to teenage mothers	1,840	2.7%	1,911	2.9%	1,958	3.0%
Children born at low birth weight	3,339	5.0%	3,211	4.9%	3,320	5.1%
Children who were not fully immunized by age 2 (1992-93)			27,172	39.3%		
Signs of Trouble						
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	11,491	3.3%	13,640	3.9%	12,387	3.4%
Children arrested for violent crime	1,382	23.6%	1,662	26.4%	1,767	25.9%
Children abused and neglected	10,224		11,217		11,058	
Children dying violently	199		213		204	

Aitkin

Demographics (1990)

Total population	12,477
Number of children	2,960
African-American	5
American Indian	79
Asian	18
Other	13
Hispanic	35
Children under 6	835
Children in single parent homes	16.8%
Median family income	$21,263

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Aitkin County



Aitkin County is located in northeastern Minnesota and is among the smallest third of counties in population. Its per capita personal income of $14,027 was the ninth lowest in the state. The largest industries in 1993 were service, local and state government, and retail. Durable goods manufacturing was the fastest growing industry, increasing by 12% between 1992 and 1993.

Aitkin County is doing better than the average county with the number of children dropping out of school. This county also saw a dramatic drop in the percentage of children committing violent crimes. An ongoing trend is the above average number of children receiving AFDC as well as the number of children receiving free/reduced-price school lunches. Children in Aitkin County were more likely to live in poverty according to the 1990 census.

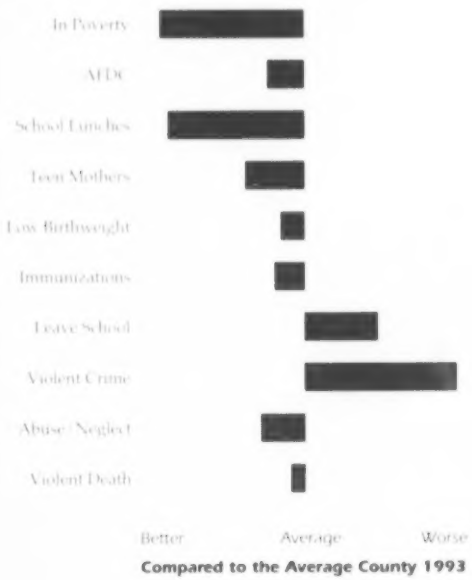
	1991		1992		1993		1993 State	
Family Economics								
Children in poverty (1990 census)	763	26.2%					142,202	12.4%
Children receiving AFDC	447	15.1%	496	16.8%	500	16.9%	125,260	10.7%
Children receiving free/reduced-price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	506	55.2%	540	56.5%	1,083	46.6%	224,860	27.6%
Birth Circumstances & Health								
Children born to teenage mothers	3	2.6%	4	3.1%	6	4.5%	1,958	3.0%
Children born at low birth weight	6	5.2%	2	1.5%	6	4.5%	3,320	5.1%
Children who were not fully immunized by age 2 (1992-93)			93	52.2%			27,172	39.3%
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	19	2.1%	14	1.4%	13	1.2%	12,387	3.4%
Children arrested for violent crime	2	50.0%	3	21.4%	2	14.3%	1,767	25.9%
Children abused and neglected	22		17		50		11,871	
Children dying violently	1		1		1		204	

Anoka

Demographics (1990)

Total population	245,609
Number of children	74,528
African-American	755
American Indian	771
Asian	1,106
Other	386
Hispanic	1,029
Children under 6	25,984
Children in single parent homes	14.9%
Median family income	$42,931

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Anoka County



Anoka County is part of the northern section of the Minneapolis-St. Paul Metropolitan Statistical Area. This county is the fourth largest in Minnesota. The largest industries in the county were durable goods manufacturing, services, and state and local government. Construction was the fastest growing industry in 1993, increasing by 13%. Anoka had a per capita personal income of $18,556, the twelfth highest in the state.

Anoka County experienced a slight decrease in the number of low weight births as well as the number of teenage births. Anoka County remains just below the state averages in most indicators except for children committing violent crimes. The rate of violent crimes committed by children remains significantly higher than the state average.

	1991		1992		1993		1993 State	
Family Economics								
Children in poverty (1990 census)	5,324	7.3%					142,202	12.4%
Children receiving AFDC	4,528	6.1%	4,963	6.7%	5,112	6.9%	125,260	10.7%
Children receiving free/reduced-price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	8,416	15.8%	9,392	17.1%	10,599	18.9%	224,860	27.6%
Birth Circumstances & Health								
Children born to teenage mothers	104	2.4%	92	2.2%	96	2.2%	1,958	3.0%
Children born at low birth weight	208	4.8%	198	4.8%	187	4.3%	3,320	5.1%
Children who were not fully immunized by age 2			1,795	37%			27,172	39.3%
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	595	2.6%	714	3.0%	793	3.2%	12,387	3.4%
Children arrested for violent crime	104	39.7%	113	39.6%	104	38.4%	1,767	25.9%
Children abused and neglected	401		490		517		11,871	
Children dying violently	7		13		12		204	

Becker

Demographics (1990)

Total population	27,977
Number of children	8,083
African-American	0
American Indian	789
Asian	38
Other	12
Hispanic	49
Children under 6	2,518
Children in single parent homes	18.1%
Median family income	$24,994

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Becker County

Becker County is located in northwestern Minnesota and is the twenty-third largest county in the state. A portion of the White Earth Indian Reservation is located in the county. In 1993, Becker had a per capita personal income of $14,385, which was the seventeenth lowest in the state. Becker County's largest industries in 1993 were services, state and local government, and retail. Durable goods manufacturing increased almost 23% between 1992 and 1993 and was the fastest growing industry.

Becker County boasts rates well under the state averages in both children dropping out of school and children committing violent crimes. The percentage of children receiving free/reduced-price school lunch remained well above average. The children in Becker County were also more likely to live in poverty according to the 1990 census.

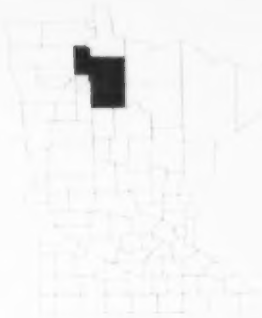
	1991		1992		1993		1993 State	
Family Economics								
Children in poverty (1990 census)	1,827	23.0%					142,202	12.4%
Children receiving AFDC	1,189	14.7%	1,201	14.9%	1,116	13.8%	125,260	10.7%
Children receiving free/reduced-price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	2,004	39.3%	2,108	41.8%	2,105	41.5%	224,860	27.6%
Birth Circumstances & Health								
Children born to teenage mothers	19	4.6%	18	5.1%	19	5.4%	1,958	3.0%
Children born at low birth weight	17	4.1%	17	4.8%	18	5.1%	3,320	5.1%
Children who were not fully immunized by age 2 (1992-93)			155	38.5%			27,172	39.3%
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	31	1.4%	40	1.8%	32	1.4%	12,387	3.4%
Children arrested for violent crime	2	12.5%	0		2	11.8%	1,767	25.9%
Children abused and neglected	71		53		109		11,871	
Children dying violently	2		6		1		204	

Children's Defense Fund of MN, 550 Rice Street, Suite 205, St. Paul, MN 55103; 612/227-6121

Beltrami

Beltrami County is located in north central Minnesota. The Red Lake Indian Reservation is located in the county. In 1993, Beltrami had a per capita personal income of $14,198, the twelfth lowest in Minnesota. State and local government, services, and retail were the largest industries. The fastest growing industry was durable goods manufacturing, which increased by almost 15% between 1992 and 1993.

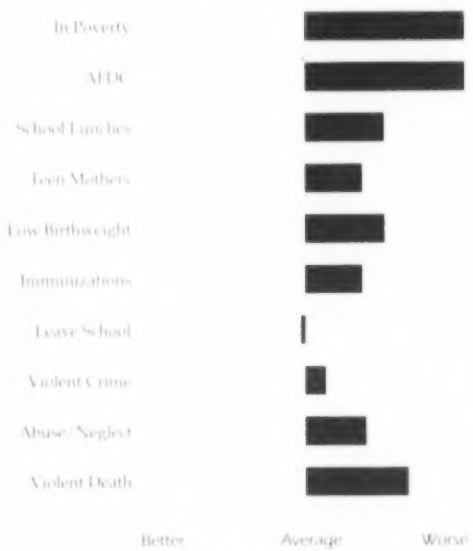
The rate of violent crimes and the rate of children dropping out of school remain below the state average. The increased number of children receiving AFDC and free or reduced-price school lunches is indicative of the extremely high rate of children in poverty in the county. Of great concern for Beltrami County is the increase in reported cases of child abuse and neglect.



Demographics (1990)

Total population	34,554
Number of children	10,227
African-American	56
American Indian	2,484
Asian	70
Other	20
Hispanic	116
Children under 6	3,506
Children in single parent homes	22.7%
Median family income	$25,133

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Beltrami County



Compared to the Average County 1993

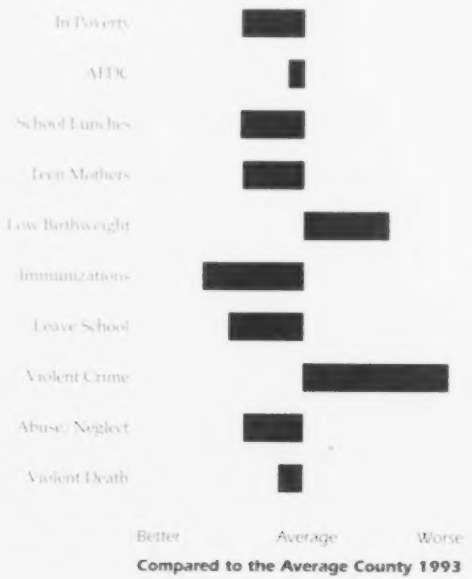
	1991		1992		1993		1993 State	
Family Economics								
Children in poverty (1990 census)	2,791	28.2%					142,202	12.4%
Children receiving AFDC	2,455	24.0%	2,657	26.0%	2,716	26.6%	125,260	10.7%
Children receiving free/reduced-price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	2,942	36.3%	3,229	38.6%	3,572	42.1%	224,860	27.6%
Birth Circumstances & Health								
Children born to teenage mothers	22	3.5%	32	5.5%	22	4.2%	1,958	3.0%
Children born at low birth weight	23	3.6%	28	4.9%	34	6.4%	3,320	5.1%
Children who were not fully immunized by age 2 (1993)			236	44.6%			27,172	39.3%
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	74	2.3%	113	3.2%	75	2.0%	12,387	3.4%
Children arrested for violent crime	12	30.0%	10	15.2%	11	20.8%	1,767	25.9%
Children abused and neglected	90		109		131		11,871	
Child dying violently	2		2		6		204	

Benton

Demographics (1990)

Total population	30,307
Number of children	9,078
African-American	64
American Indian	87
Asian	59
Other	5
Hispanic	36
Children under 6	3,115
Children in single parent homes	14.2%
Median family income	$31,942

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Benton County



Benton County is a moderate-sized county in central Minnesota. It is part of the St. Cloud Metropolitan Statistical Area. Its per capita personal income of $15,915 is close to the state average and increased almost 4% from 1992 to 1993. The largest industries in 1993 in Benton County were non-durable goods manufacturing, services, retail, and durable goods manufacturing, which increased over 16% from 1992.

The teenage birth rate in Benton County is well below the state average. The majority of children in Benton County stay in school. Although the school dropout rate was still below the state average, the increase over the past two years is significant. In addition, the number of violent crimes committed by children continued to increase.

	1991		1992		1993		1993 State	
Family Economics								
Children in poverty (1990 census)	940	10.5%					142,202	12.4%
Children receiving AFDC	647	7.1%	666	7.3%	682	7.5%	125,260	10.7%
Children receiving free/reduced-price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	1,182	23.4%	1,245	22.9%	1,326	23.8%	224,860	27.6%
Birth Circumstances & Health								
Children born to teenage mothers	4	0.8%	12	2.4%	9	1.9%	1,958	3.0%
Children born at low birth weight	25	4.8%	26	5.1%	31	6.6%	3,320	5.1%
Children who were not fully immunized by age 2 (1992-93)			164	29.5%			27,172	39.3%
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	7	0.4%	18	0.8%	13	0.6%	12,387	3.4%
Children arrested for violent crime	2	12.5%	9	50.0%	8	44.4%	1,767	25.9%
Children abused and neglected	52		38		48		11,871	
Child dying violently	3		0		1		204	

Big Stone

Demographics (1990)

Total population	6,311
Number of children	1,642
African-American	0
American Indian	15
Asian	15
Other	0
Hispanic	17
Children under 6	516
Children in single parent homes	9.2%
Median family income	$23,893

Big Stone County is located in west central Minnesota on the South Dakota border. It is the seventh smallest county in the state. In 1993, Big Stone had a per capita personal income of $14,336. This income ranked fourteenth lowest in the state, and dropped over 11% between 1992 and 1993. The largest industries in 1993 were state and local government, services, and retail trade.

Overall, children appear to be doing well in Big Stone County. Big Stone County had no children committing violent crimes for all three years. In 1992, virtually all the children in Big Stone County were up to date on immunizations. However, 18.6% of the children lived in poverty according to the 1990 census, which is above the state average of 12.4%. The number of children receiving AFDC increased in 1993.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Big Stone County

	1991		1992		1993		1993 State	
Family Economics								
Children in poverty (1990 census)	293	18.6%					142,202	12.4%
Children receiving AFDC	107	6.5%	102	6.2%	121	7.4%	125,260	10.7%
Children receiving free/reduced-price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	611	46.6%	657	49.3%	662	48.6%	224,860	27.6%
Birth Circumstances & Health								
Children born to teenage mothers	1	1.4%	0		1	1.7%	1,958	3.0%
Children born at low birth weight	3	4.3%	2	2.8%	0		3,320	5.1%
Children who were not fully immunized by age 2 (1992-93)			51	38.3%			27,172	39.3%
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	0		3	0.5%	4	0.7%	12,387	3.4%
Children arrested for violent crime	0		0		0		1,767	25.9%
Children abused and neglected	13		3		2		11,871	
Children dying violently	0		0		1		204	

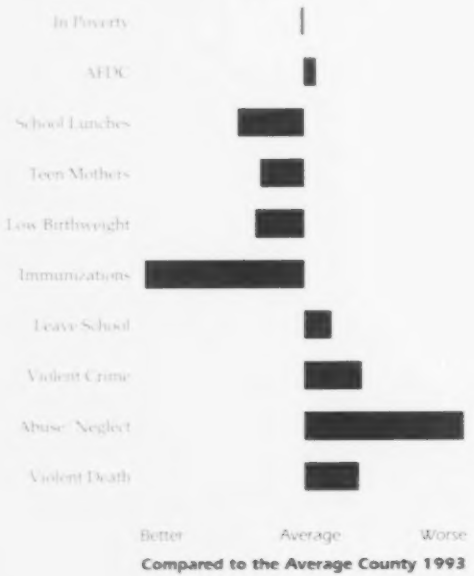
BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Blue Earth

Demographics (1990)

Total population	54,570
Number of children	12,375
African-American	33
American Indian	25
Asian	201
Other	120
Hispanic	202
Children under 6	4,213
Children in single parent homes	15.2%
Median family income	$32,550

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Blue Earth County



Blue Earth County, the twelfth largest county in Minnesota, is located in south central Minnesota. Its per capita personal income of $17,517 was the nineteenth highest in the state. The largest industries in 1993 were services, state and local government, and retail trade. The construction industry was the fastest growing industry, increasing by 13% between 1992 and 1993.

Blue Earth County continued to have below-average problems on economic and health indicators. Areas of concern include a sharp increase in the number of violent crimes committed by children. There were also almost 100 additional reported cases of abuse and neglect in 1993, as compared to 1991.

	1991		1992		1993		1993 State	
Family Economics								
Children in poverty (1990 census)	1,793	14.8%					142,202	12.4%
Children receiving AFDC	1,114	9.0%	1,194	9.6%	1,129	9.1%	125,260	10.7%
Children receiving free/reduced-price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	2,361	22.6%	2,522	23.9%	2,612	23.6%	224,860	27.6%
Birth Circumstances & Health								
Children born to teenage mothers	14	2.3%	7	1.2%	14	2.2%	1,958	3.0%
Children born at low birth weight	19	3.1%	19	3.2%	23	3.7%	3,320	5.1%
Children who were not fully immunized by age 2 (1992-93)			187	21.9%			27,172	39.3%
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	104	2.5%	128	2.9%	127	2.7%	12,387	3.4%
Children arrested for violent crime	2	4.2%	5	8.9%	15	27.8%	1,767	25.9%
Children abused and neglected	188		215		286		11,871	
Children dying violently	1		3		5		204	

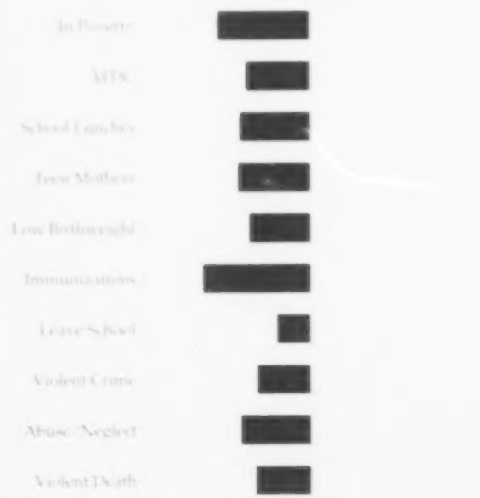
Children's Defense Fund of MN, 550 Rice Street, Suite 205, St. Paul, MN 55103; 612/227-6121

Brown

Demographics (1990)

Total population	27,120
Number of children	7,439
African-American	4
American Indian	11
Asian	76
Other	18
Hispanic	93
Children under 6	2,365
Children in single parent homes	10.5%
Median family income	$30,681

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Brown County



Compared to the Average County 1993

Brown County is a moderate-sized county located along the Minnesota River in the southwestern portion of the state. Brown County had a 1993 per capita personal income of $17,377, which ranked twentieth in the state. The largest industries were services, non-durable goods manufacturing, and durable goods manufacturing. Transportation and public utilities were the fastest growing industries and increased by 13% between 1992 and 1993.

Brown County reports one of the lowest poverty rates in the state. The number of children receiving AFDC remained consistently low over the reported three-year period. The 1993 percentage of children born with low birth weight has been reduced by almost 50% and is now below the state average. Overall, trends in Brown County remained steady.

	1991		1992		1993		1993 State	
Family Economics								
Children in poverty (1990 census)	630	8.5%					142,202	12.4%
Children receiving AFDC	307	4.1%	358	4.8%	360	4.8%	125,260	10.7%
Children receiving free/reduced-price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	1,305	21.8%	1,354	22.3%	1,434	23.2%	224,860	27.6%
Birth Circumstances & Health								
Children born to teenage mothers	8	2.3%	4	1.2%	6	1.7%	1,958	3.0%
Children born at low birth weight	23	6.6%	14	4.1%	12	3.4%	3,320	5.1%
Children who were not fully immunized by age 2 (1992-93)			133	29.0%			27,172	39.3%
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	29	1.5%	26	1.3%	31	1.4%	12,387	3.4%
Children arrested for violent crime	1	9.1%	2	33.3%	1	7.1%	1,767	25.9%
Children abused and neglected	32		32		35		11,871	
Children dying violently	2		1		0		204	

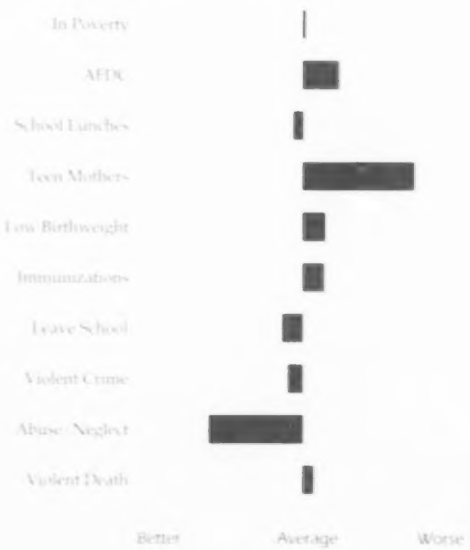
BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Carlton

Demographics (1990)

Total population	29,338
Number of children	8,245
African-American	10
American Indian	494
Asian	61
Other	3
Hispanic	36
Children under 6	2,463
Children in single parent homes	18.3%
Median family income	$30,208

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Carlton County



Compared to the Average County 1993

Carlton County is a mid-sized county located in northwestern Minnesota on the shore of Lake Superior. It includes part of the Fond du Lac Indian Reservation. In 1993, Carlton had a per capita personal income of $15,845, which ranked forty-seventh among Minnesota counties. Income increased by 4% from 1992 to 1993. Non-durable goods manufacturing, state and local government, and services were the largest industries. The fastest growing industry was construction, which increased by 65% between 1992 and 1993.

The number of children in Carlton County receiving AFDC decreased slightly. Carlton County reported a significant decrease in the number of children dropping out of school, reaching a level well below the state average. Concerns include an increased number of children born to teenaged mothers, as well as an increase in the percentage of children born with low birth weights.

	1991		1992		1993		1993 State	
Family Economics								
Children in poverty (1990 census)	1,225	15.2%					142,202	12.4%
Children receiving AFDC	875	10.6%	918	11.1%	865	10.5%	125,260	10.7%
Children receiving free/reduced-price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	2,029	30.8%	2,065	30.5%	2,090	30.8%	224,860	27.6%
Birth Circumstances & Health								
Children born to teenage mothers	9	2.6%	17	4.6%	17	5.2%	1,958	3.0%
Children born at low birth weight	10	2.9%	19	5.2%	17	5.2%	3,320	5.1%
Children who were not fully immunized by age 2 (1992-93)			216	41.2%			27,172	39.3%
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	101	3.4%	74	2.4%	53	1.7%	12,387	3.4%
Children arrested for violent crime	5	20.0%	12	44.4%	5	14.3%	1,767	25.9%
Children abused and neglected	34		14		26		11,871	
Children dying violently	3		1		2		204	

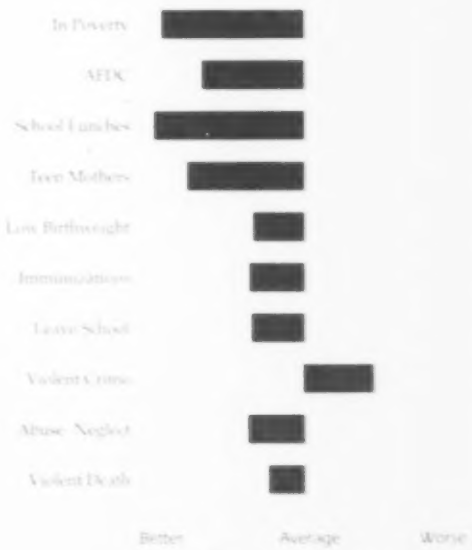
Children's Defense Fund of MN, 550 Rice Street, Suite 205, St. Paul, MN 55103, 612/227-6121

Carver

Demographics (1990)

Total population	48,116
Number of children	14,498
African-American	30
American Indian	34
Asian	168
Other	20
Hispanic	75
Children under 6	5,362
Children in single parent homes	9.8%
Median family income	$43,554

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Carver County



Compared to the Average County 1993

Carver County, the eleventh largest county in the state, is located on the western edge of the Minneapolis-St. Paul Metropolitan Statistical Area. In 1993, Carver had the sixth highest per capita personal income in the state: $22,218. The largest industries in 1993 were durable goods manufacturing, non-durable goods manufacturing, and services. The services industry was the fastest growing, increasing by 22% from 1992 to 1993.

Children living in Carver County were least likely to live in poverty of any children in the state. The county had a poverty rate well below the state average. Only 13% of the children received a free or reduced-price lunch in 1993. The number of teenage births dropped by almost 50% from 1991 to 1993. An area of concern is the increase in children committing violent crimes.

	1991		1992		1993		1993 State	
Family Economics								
Children in poverty (1990 census)	699	4.9%					142,202	12.4%
Children receiving AFDC	375	2.6%	414	2.9%	384	2.6%	125,260	10.7%
Children receiving free/reduced-price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	1,025	11.6%	1,233	12.9%	1,272	12.9%	224,860	27.6%
Birth Circumstances & Health								
Children born to teenage mothers	14	1.6%	8	0.9%	8	0.9%	1,958	3.0%
Children born at low birth weight	33	3.7%	38	4.3%	34	3.6%	3,320	5.1%
Children who were not fully immunized by age 2 (1992-93)			275	34.0%			27,172	39.3%
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	227	6.5%	177	4.7%	41	1.0%	12,387	3.4%
Children arrested for violent crime	3	10.3%	21	42.9%	15	30.0%	1,767	25.9%
Children abused and neglected	56		64		80		11,871	
Children dying violently	3		7		1		204	

Cass

Demographics (1990)

Total population	21,880
Number of children	5,954
African-American	18
American Indian	1,073
Asian	37
Other	7
Hispanic	44
Children under 6	1,920
Children in single parent homes	20.6%
Median family income	$22,022

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Cass County

Compared to the Average County 1993

Cass County is a moderate-sized county located in north central Minnesota. Part of the Leech Lake Indian Reservation is within the county's borders. Cass County's per capita personal income of $14,655 was the eighteenth lowest in the state. The largest industries in 1993 were services, state and local government, and retail. The fastest growing was services, which increased by 30% from 1992.

The number of teenage births in Cass County improved to a rate just slightly above the state average. The county had a decrease in the number of violent crimes committed by children. Cass County had one of the highest rates of children living in poverty in the state of Minnesota. One out of every three children is poor according to the 1990 census. AFDC rates remained twice as high as the state average.

	1991		1992		1993		1993 State	
Family Economics								
Children in poverty (1990 census)	1,723	29.5%					142,202	12.4%
Children receiving AFDC	1,160	19.5%	1,162	19.3%	1,194	20.1%	125,260	10.7%
Children receiving free/reduced-price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	2,491	33.3%	2,501	33.8%	2,710	36.6%	224,860	27.6%
Birth Circumstances & Health								
Children born to teenage mothers	16	3.4%	10	2.3%	10	1.3%	1,958	3.0%
Children born at low birth weight	19	6.4%	8	2.7%	18	6.3%	3,320	5.1%
Children who were not fully immunized by age 2 (1992-93)			134	41.3%			27,172	19.8%
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	109	3.8%	110	3.8%	128	4.3%	12,387	3.4%
Children arrested for violent crime	3	17.9%	0		1	2.2%	1,767	25.9%
Children abused and neglected	90		83		114		11,871	
Children dying violently	4		0		4		204	

Chippewa

Demographics (1990)

Total population	13,316
Number of children	3,576
African-American	12
American Indian	16
Asian	11
Other	11
Hispanic	47
Children under 6	1,087
Children in single parent homes	12.3%
Median family income	$27,361

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Chippewa County

Chippewa County is located in west central Minnesota along the Minnesota River. It is ranked sixtieth in population among counties. During the summer months, the county's population includes migrant farmworkers and their children. In 1993, Chippewa had a per capita personal income of $16,063, close to the average Minnesota county. This was an almost 6% decrease from 1992. The largest industries were durable goods manufacturing, state and local government, and services. Durable goods manufacturing was the fastest growing industry, increasing by almost 22% from 1992 to 1993.

Chippewa County reported no violent crimes being committed by children in 1993 as well as no child deaths in 1993. This county continued a trend of better than the state average for many indicators. Areas of concern include the number of children dropping out of school and an increased number of reported cases of child abuse and neglect.

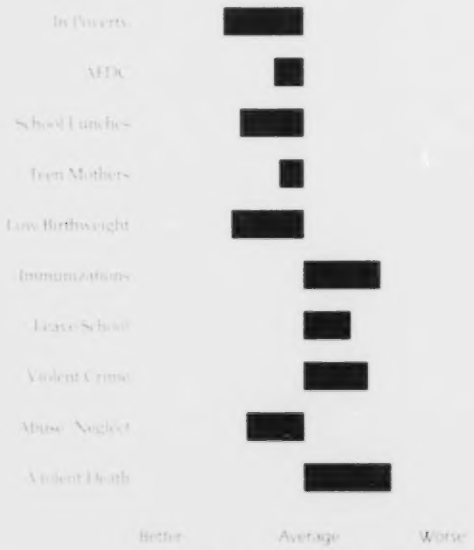
	1991		1992		1993		1993 State	
Family Economics								
Children in poverty (1990 census)	536	*15.1%*					142,202	*12.4%*
Children receiving AFDC	223	6.2%	249	*7.0%*	252	*7.0%*	125,260	*10.7%*
Children receiving free/reduced-price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	693	28.3%	734	29.3%	739	29.5%	224,860	27.6%
Birth Circumstances & Health								
Children born to teenage mothers	0		2	*1.2%*	3	*2.0%*	1,958	*3.0%*
Children born at low birth weight	5	3.4%	8	*4.9%*	5	3.3%	3,320	*5.1%*
Children who were not fully immunized by age 2 (1992-93)			57	*38.8%*			27,172	*39.3%*
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	19	*1.6%*	30	*2.4%*	34	*2.7%*	12,387	*3.4%*
Children arrested for violent crime	1	*14.3%*	0		0		1,767	*25.9%*
Children abused and neglected	41		52		66		11,871	
Children dying violently	1		0		0		204	

Chisago

Demographics (1990)

Total population	30,628
Number of children	9,428
African-American	23
American Indian	60
Asian	48
Other	27
Hispanic	58
Children under 6	3,062
Children in single parent homes	12.1%
Median family income	$35,229

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Chisago County



Compared to the Average County 1993

Chisago County is located in east central Minnesota on the Wisconsin border and is part of the northern edge of the Minneapolis-St. Paul Metropolitan Statistical Area. Its population ranked twenty-fourth in the state. In 1993, Chisago had a per capita personal income of $16,802 which was the twenty-sixth highest in the state. The largest industries in the county were services, state and local government, and retail, which increased almost 23% from 1992 to 1993.

Chisago County decreased the number of children dropping out of school over the past three years to a level well below the state average. Children in this county are less likely to live in poverty than the average county. One problem is the significant increase in the number of violent crimes committed by children. Another area for concern is the number of child deaths.

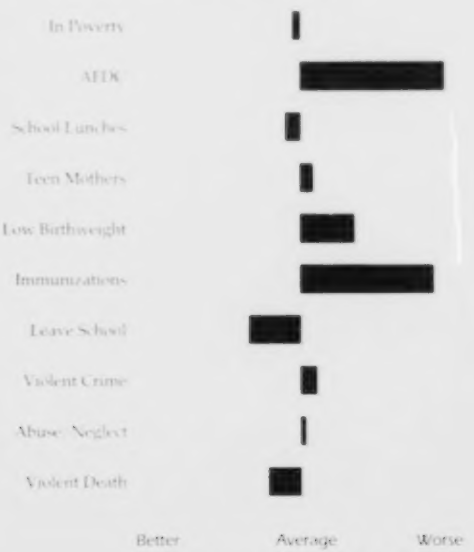
	1991		1992		1993		1993 State	
Family Economics								
Children in poverty (1990 census)	859	9.3%					142,202	12.4%
Children receiving AFDC	579	6.1%	691	7.3%	637	6.8%	125,260	10.7%
Children receiving free/reduced-price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	1,372	22.9%	1,592	25.8%	1,511	23.9%	224,860	27.6%
Birth Circumstances & Health								
Children born to teenage mothers	10	2.1%	9	1.9%	14	2.6%	1,958	3.0%
Children born at low birth weight	21	4.4%	20	4.2%	17	3.2%	3,320	5.1%
Children who were not fully immunized by age 2 (1992-93)			231	46.5%			27,172	39.3%
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	124	4.3%	106	3.6%	92	3.1%	12,387	3.4%
Children arrested for violent crime	3	8.8%	3	9.1%	9	29.0%	1,767	25.9%
Children abused and neglected	65		47		51		11,871	
Children dying violently	2		4		5		204	

Clay

Demographics (1990)

Total population	51,402
Number of children	12,667
African-American	54
American Indian	279
Asian	107
Other	357
Hispanic	507
Children under 6	4,285
Children in single parent homes	15.8%
Median family income	$32,983

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Clay County



Compared to the Average County 1993

Clay County is located in northwestern Minnesota on the North Dakota border. It is part of the Fargo-Moorhead Metropolitan Statistical Area and is the fourteenth largest county in Minnesota. Clay County's population during the summer months includes migrant farmworkers and their children. In 1993, Clay County had a per capita personal income of $15,280, which ranked fifty-seventh among Minnesota counties. The largest industries were state and local government, services, and retail. Wholesale trade increased by almost 20% between 1992 and 1993.

Clay County experienced a lower number of child deaths in 1993 than in 1991. Overall, the county remains close to the state average for all indicators with the exception of immunizations. Almost 52% of children were not fully immunized by age two, a rate significantly higher than the state average. Another area of concern is the number of violent crimes committed by children. Between 1991 and 1992, this number doubled.

	1991		1992		1993		1993 State	
Family Economics								
Children in poverty (1990 census)	1,808	*14.5%*					142,202	*12.4%*
Children receiving AFDC	1,765	*13.9%*	1,946	*15.4%*	2,110	*16.7%*	125,260	*10.7%*
Children receiving free/reduced-price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	2,415	*28.2%*	2,555	*29.4%*	2,676	*30.2%*	224,860	*27.6%*
Birth Circumstances & Health								
Children born to teenage mothers	23	*3.5%*	18	*2.7%*	22	*3.3%*	1,958	*3.0%*
Children born at low birth weight	30	*4.6%*	35	*5.2%*	39	*5.9%*	3,320	*5.1%*
Children who were not fully immunized by age 2 (1992-93)			371	*51.9%*			27,172	*39.3%*
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	48	*1.3%*	42	*1.0%*	43	*1.1%*	12,387	*3.4%*
Children arrested for violent crime	5	*10.9%*	9	*20.9%*	9	*20.0%*	1,767	*25.9%*
Children abused and neglected	101		126		118		11,871	
Children dying violently	2		1		1		204	

Clearwater

Demographics (1990)

Total population	8,328
Number of children	2,421
African-American	0
American Indian	270
Asian	7
Other	0
Hispanic	12
Children under 6	731
Children in single parent homes	16.9%
Median family income	$21,572

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Clearwater County

Compared to the Average County 1993

Clearwater County, in northwestern Minnesota, is the twelfth smallest county in the state. Portions of the Red Lake Indian Reservation are located within the county. The county's 1993 per capita personal income of $12,850 was the third lowest in Minnesota. State and local government, services, and construction were the county's largest industries in 1993. The fastest growing industry was durable goods manufacturing, which increased 23% from 1992 to 1993.

This county achieved a dramatic decrease in the number of children dropping out of school. A drop from 3.4% in 1991 to .7% in 1993 puts them well below the state average and is one of the lowest dropout rates in the state. Another positive indicator is the low number of children committing violent crimes. Areas of concern include the fact that one out of three children in Clearwater County lived in poverty according to the 1990 census. However, the county experienced a reduction in the number of children receiving AFDC between 1991 and 1993. Another area for concern is the high rate of children who are not immunized by age two.

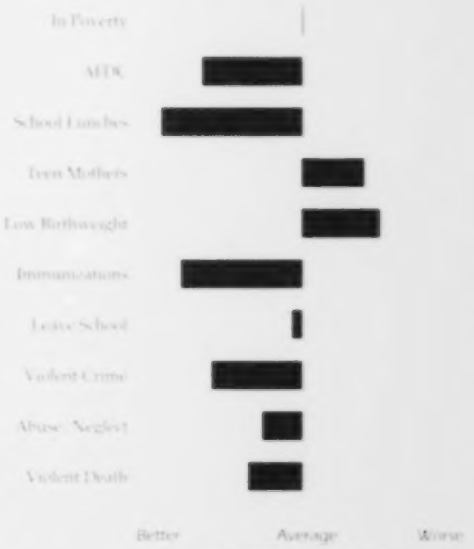
	1991		1992		1993		1993 State	
Family Economics								
Children in poverty (1990 census)	717	30.0%					142,202	12.4%
Children receiving AFDC	410	16.9%	419	17.3%	354	14.6%	125,260	10.7%
Children receiving free/reduced-price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	824	45.2%	858	47.0%	911	49.9%	224,860	27.6%
Birth Circumstances & Health								
Children born to teenage mothers	4	3.3%	4	4.7%	4	4.0%	1,958	3.0%
Children born at low birth weight	5	4.1%	1	1.2%	6	6.0%	3,320	5.1%
Children who were not fully immunized by age 2 (1992-93)			70	48.6%			27,172	39.3%
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	28	3.4%	25	3.0%	6	0.7%	12,387	3.4%
Children arrested for violent crime	0		1	16.7%	1	11.1%	1,767	25.9%
Children abused and neglected	13		11		16		11,871	
Children dying violently	1		2		1		204	

Cook

Demographics (1990)

Total population	3,873
Number of children	919
African-American	4
American Indian	72
Asian	18
Other	0
Hispanic	0
Children under 6	320
Children in single parent homes	13.4%
Median family income	$27,839

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Cook County



Compared to the Average County 1993

Cook County is the smallest county in Minnesota. It is located in the Arrowhead Region of northeastern Minnesota bordering Canada and Lake Superior. The Grand Portage Indian Reservation is located in the county. Its per capita personal income of $18,911 is the ninth highest in Minnesota. The largest industries in 1993 were services, state and local government, and retail trade. The fastest growing was construction, which increased 19% between 1992 and 1993.

Cook County reported zero violent crimes committed by children in 1993, a repeat of similar good news from 1991. This county also had zero child deaths. The rate of children in poverty from the 1990 census was slightly higher than the state average. However, the number of children receiving AFDC decreased from 1991 to 1993.

	1991		1992		1993		1993 State	
Family Economics								
Children in poverty (1990 census)	135	*15.1%*					142,202	*12.4%*
Children receiving AFDC	40	*4.4%*	26	*2.8%*	25	*2.7%*	125,260	*10.7%*
Children receiving free/reduced-price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	108	*16.5%*	101	*14.2%*	99	*14.0%*	224,860	*27.6%*
Birth Circumstances & Health								
Children born to teenage mothers	0		0		2	*4.3%*	1,958	*3.0%*
Children born at low birth weight	1	*2.2%*	2	*3.7%*	3	*6.4%*	3,320	*5.1%*
Children who were not fully immunized by age 2 (1992-93)			16	*27.6%*			27,172	*39.3%*
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	5	*1.7%*	13	*4.1%*	6	*1.9%*	12,387	*3.4%*
Children arrested for violent crime	0		1	*11.1%*	0		1,767	*25.9%*
Children abused and neglected	15		7		6		11,871	
Children dying violently	0		1		0		204	

Cottonwood

Demographics (1990)

Total population	12,765
Number of children	3,306
African-American	0
American Indian	7
Asian	38
Other	15
Hispanic	34
Children under 6	951
Children in single parent homes	11.9%
Median family income	$26,756

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Cottonwood County

Cottonwood County is located in southwestern Minnesota. Cottonwood County's per capita personal income of $14,955 ranked sixty-sixth in the state and decreased 7% from 1992 to 1993. The largest industries in 1993 were services, durable goods manufacturing, and state and local government. The fastest growing industry was durable goods manufacturing, which increased 43%.

Cottonwood County has a dropout rate well below the state average. The number of children not immunized by age two is the same as the state average. The number of children committing violent crimes increased slightly from 1991 to 1993. The county remains above the state average in the number of children living in poverty. Areas of concern include the increased number of teenage births and the increased number of children born with low birth weight.

	1991		1992		1993		1993 State	
Family Economics								
Children in poverty (1990 census)	581	17.9%					142,202	12.4%
Children receiving AFDC	221	6.7%	275	8.3%	305	9.2%	125,260	10.7%
Children receiving free/reduced-price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	749	31.2%	825	34.1%	870	34.3%	224,860	27.6%
Birth Circumstances & Health								
Children born to teenage mothers	3	2.2%	6	3.9%	6	4.1%	1,958	3.0%
Children born at low birth weight	5	3.6%	2	1.3%	9	6.1%	3,320	5.1%
Children who were not fully immunized by age 2 (1992-93)			74	39.4%			27,172	39.3%
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	9	0.8%	20	1.8%	9	0.8%	12,387	3.4%
Children arrested for violent crime	0		1	5.6%	5	41.7%	1,767	25.9%
Children abused and neglected	57		43		27		11,871	
Children dying violently	0		0		1		204	

Crow Wing

Demographics (1990)

Total population	44,462
Number of children	11,949
African-American	24
American Indian	202
Asian	47
Other	33
Hispanic	134
Children under 6	3,861
Children in single parent homes	18.7%
Median family income	$27,274

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Crow Wing County

Crow Wing County is located in the north central portion of Minnesota and is the eighteenth largest county in the state. The largest industries in 1993 were services, state and local government, and retail trade. Durable goods manufacturing increased by 38% from 1992 to 1993, making it the fastest growing industry. In 1993, Crow Wing County had a per capita personal income of $16,691, an increase of 4% since 1992 and the twenty-ninth largest in the state.

Crow Wing County remains within the state average in the number of children born with low birth weight. They remain just slightly above average in the percentage of teenage births. Concerns for Crow Wing County include a trend toward increased numbers of children committing violent crimes and an increase in child deaths.

	1991		1992		1993		1993 State	
Family Economics								
Children in poverty (1990 census)	2,141	18.4%					142,202	12.4%
Children receiving AFDC	1,510	12.6%	1,484	12.4%	1,481	12.4%	125,260	10.7%
Children receiving free/reduced-price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	2,984	33.1%	3,034	32.4%	3,172	33.1%	224,860	27.6%
Birth Circumstances & Health								
Children born to teenage mothers	21	3.3%	25	3.9%	29	4.8%	1,958	3.0%
Children born at low birth weight	29	4.6%	23	3.6%	29	4.8%	3,320	5.1%
Children who were not fully immunized by age 2 (1992-93)			300	39.9%			27,172	39.3%
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	180	4.4%	225	5.2%	216	4.8%	12,387	3.4%
Children arrested for violent crime	2	6.5%	7	15.2%	6	12.0%	1,767	25.9%
Children abused and neglected	206		225		260		11,871	
Children dying violently	5		0		7		204	

Dakota

Demographics (1990)

Total population	278,993
Number of children	82,352
African-American	1,161
American Indian	162
Asian	2,353
Other	560
Hispanic	1,623
Children under 6	30,679
Children in single parent homes	13.9%
Median family income	$47,136

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Dakota County

Dakota County is the third largest county in the state and is located in the southeastern portion of the Minneapolis-St. Paul Metropolitan Statistical Area. In 1993, Dakota had a per capita personal income of *$23,120, the third highest in Minnesota. The largest industries in 1993* were services, non-durable goods manufacturing, durable goods manufacturing, and wholesale trade. Finance, insurance and real estate were the fastest growing industries, increasing by 19% from 1992 to 1993.

Dakota County has one of the lowest rates for children in poverty in the state. The percentage of teenage births remained at a rate well below the state average during the reported years. On the down side, the number of children committing violent crimes doubled between 1991 and 1993. This county also saw a slight increase in the number of children dropping out of school.

	1991		1992		1993		1993 State	
Family Economics								
Children in poverty (1990 census)	4,364	5.4%					142,202	12.4%
Children receiving AFDC	3,893	4.7%	4,125	5.0%	4,351	5.3%	125,260	10.7%
Children receiving free/reduced-price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	6,292	11.2%	7,141	12.4%	7,717	12.5%	224,860	27.6%
Birth Circumstances & Health								
Children born to teenage mothers	66	1.3%	80	1.6%	78	1.5%	1,958	3.0%
Children born at low birth weight	221	4.4%	241	4.8%	256	5.0%	3,320	5.1%
Children who were not fully immunized by age 2 (1992-93)			1,953	37.3%			27,172	39.3%
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	681	2.9%	847	3.2%	869	3.1%	12,387	3.4%
Children arrested for violent crime	42	23.6%	90	27.8%	88	33.5%	1,767	25.9%
Children abused and neglected	585		576		588		11,871	
Children dying violently	5		13		14		204	

Dodge

Demographics (1990)

Total population	15,895
Number of children	4,920
African-American	6
American Indian	13
Asian	56
Other	46
Hispanic	76
Children under 6	1,624
Children in single parent homes	9.2%
Median family income	$33,582

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Dodge County

Compared to the Average County 1993

Dodge County is a moderate-sized county in southeastern Minnesota. The county's per capita personal income was $16,373 in 1993, which ranked thirty-second in the state. The largest industries in 1993 were durable goods manufacturing, state and local government, and construction. Durable goods manufacturing was the fastest growing industry, increasing by 32%.

Dodge County had a small decrease in the number of teenage births since 1991. Overall, children in Dodge County were less likely to live in poverty than in the average Minnesota county. In 1993 there were no reports of violent crimes committed by children. The number of children dropping out of school increased slightly, but remained well below the state average. One area of concern is a higher-than-average number of children who were not fully immunized by age two.

	1991		1992		1993		1993 State	
Family Economics								
Children in poverty (1990 census)	358	7.4%					142,202	12.4%
Children receiving AFDC	193	3.9%	210	4.3%	260	5.3%	125,260	10.7%
Children receiving free/reduced-price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	767	20.4%	843	21.7%	863	22.3%	224,860	27.6%
Birth Circumstances & Health								
Children born to teenage mothers	8	3.1%	3	1.2%	4	1.8%	1,958	3.0%
Children born at low birth weight	14	5.5%	10	4.0%	10	4.4%	3,320	5.1%
Children who were not fully immunized by age 2 (1992-93)			123	45.1%			27,172	39.3%
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	11	0.7%	13	0.8%	19	1.1%	12,387	3.4%
Children arrested for violent crime	1	33.3%	3	20.0%	0		1,767	25.9%
Children abused and neglected	21		37		55		11,871	
Children dying violently	3		2		0		204	

Douglas

Demographics (1990)

Total population	28,789
Number of children	7,793
African-American	14
American Indian	30
Asian	60
Other	4
Hispanic	37
Children under 6	2,478
Children in single parent homes	11.9%
Median family income	$26,886

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Douglas County

Compared to the Average County 1993

Douglas County, located in west central Minnesota, is the thirty-second largest in the state. The largest industries in 1993 were services, state and local government, and retail trade. The fastest growing since 1992 was transportation and public utilities, which increased 20%. Douglas County had a per capita personal income of $15,881, close to average for Minnesota counties.

The number of children born with low birth weight was significantly reduced. A lower-than-average percentage of teenage births was maintained over the three-year period. This county posted a sharp increase in the number of children dropping out of school to a percentage well above the state average.

	1991		1992		1993		1993 State	
Family Economics								
Children in poverty (1990 census)	1,018	13.2%					142,202	12.4%
Children receiving AFDC	470	6.0%	473	6.1%	444	5.7%	125,260	10.7%
Children receiving free/reduced-price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	1,757	28.5%	1,860	30.2%	1,826	29.4%	224,860	27.6%
Birth Circumstances & Health								
Children born to teenage mothers	6	1.7%	14	3.7%	9	2.7%	1,958	3.0%
Children born at low birth weight	21	6.1%	13	3.5%	11	3.3%	3,320	5.1%
Children who were not fully immunized by age 2 (1992-93)			160	35.8%			27,172	39.3%
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	40	1.6%	55	2.0%	138	4.9%	12,387	3.4%
Children arrested for violent crime	8	38.1%	2	11.1%	5	21.7%	1,767	25.9%
Children abused and neglected	155		114		106		11,871	
Children dying violently	0		4		0		204	

Children's Defense Fund of MN, 550 Rice Street, Suite 205, St. Paul, MN 55103; 612/227-6121

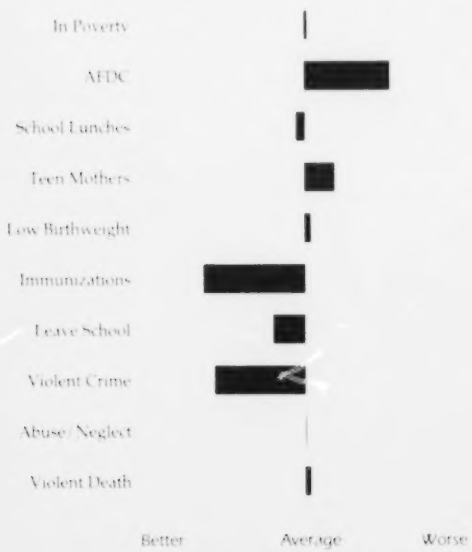
BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Faribault

Demographics (1990)

Total population	17,170
Number of children	4,523
African-American	13
American Indian	13
Asian	73
Other	60
Hispanic	116
Children under 6	1,331
Children in single parent homes	12.6%
Median family income	$27,606

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Faribault County



Compared to the Average County 1993

Faribault County is located in southern Minnesota on the Iowa border and ranks fifty-second in size among Minnesota counties. The largest industries in 1993 were state and local government, services, durable goods manufacturing, and retail trade. The fastest growing industry was construction, which increased almost 18% since 1992. The per capita personal income of Faribault County was $16,117, which ranked fortieth in the state.

Faribault County had a low rate of children dropping out of school. There were no reports of violent crimes committed by children in 1993. The number of children living in poverty in Faribault is slightly higher than average for the state. This county had an increase in 1993 in the number of births to teenagers.

	1991		1992		1993		1993 State	
Family Economics								
Children in poverty (1990 census)	682	15.2%					142,202	12.4%
Children receiving AFDC (Faribault/Martin)	888	8.3%	811	7.6%	820	7.7%	125,260	10.7%
Children receiving free/reduced-price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	904	27.6%	983	30.1%	975	31.0%	224,860	27.6%
Birth Circumstances & Health								
Children born to teenage mothers	4	2.3%	2	1.1%	6	3.6%	1,958	3.0%
Children born at low birth weight	13	7.3%	7	4.0%	8	4.8%	3,320	5.1%
Children who were not fully immunized by age 2 (1992-93)			69	29.5%			27,172	39.3%
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	15	1.1%	9	0.6%	21	1.5%	12,387	3.4%
Children arrested for violent crime	1	7.7%	4	40.0%	0		1,767	25.9%
Children abused and neglected	66		57		41		11,871	
Children dying violently	1		0		1		204	

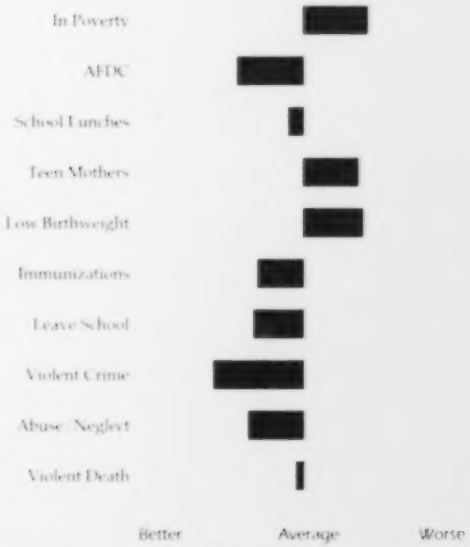
BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Fillmore

Demographics (1990)

Total population	20,839
Number of children	5,784
African-American	2
American Indian	17
Asian	39
Other	11
Hispanic	35
Children under 6	1,820
Children in single parent homes	10.4%
Median family income	$27,151

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Fillmore County



Compared to the Average County 1993

Fillmore County is a moderate-sized county located along the Iowa border in southeastern Minnesota. In 1993, Fillmore had a per capita personal income of $15,037, which ranked sixty-fourth in the state. Fillmore County's largest industries were services, state and local government, retail, and durable goods manufacturing. The industry experiencing the largest growth between 1992 and 1993 was construction, which rose by 11%.

Unlike the state as a whole, Fillmore County has not seen an increase in the number of substantiated reports of child abuse and neglect. No children committed violent crimes, and a better-than-average number of two-year-olds were fully immunized. Areas of concern for Fillmore County include the percentage of children born with low birth weight, which has increased to higher than the average county. The number of teen births has also increased slightly between 1991 and 1993.

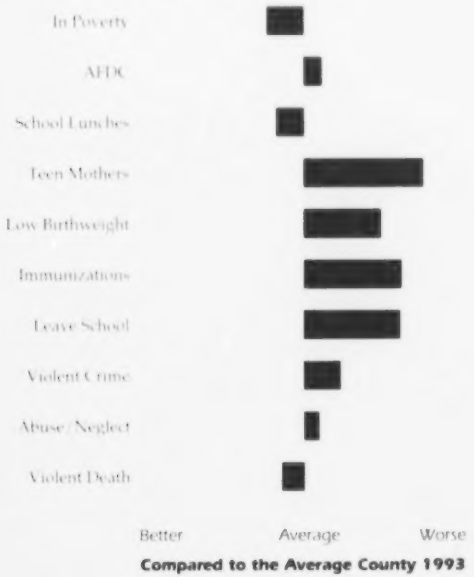
	1991		1992		1993		1993 State	
Family Economics								
Children in poverty (1990 census)	1,121	*19.6%*					142,202	*12.4%*
Children receiving AFDC	224	*3.9%*	264	*4.6%*	269	*4.7%*	125,260	*10.7%*
Children receiving free/reduced-price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	991	*28.3%*	1,010	*28.9%*	1,047	*30.1%*	224,860	*27.6%*
Birth Circumstances & Health								
Children born to teenage mothers	9	*3.2%*	2	*0.7%*	11	*4.1%*	1,958	*3.0%*
Children born at low birth weight	9	*3.2%*	13	*4.8%*	16	*6.0%*	3,320	*5.1%*
Children who were not fully immunized by age 2 (1992-93)			135	*34.8%*			27,172	*39.3%*
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	20	*1.2%*	17	*1.1%*	18	*1.1%*	12,387	*3.4%*
Children arrested for violent crime	0		0		0		1,767	*25.9%*
Children abused and neglected	30		38		32		11,871	
Children dying violently	0		0		1		204	

Freeborn

Demographics (1990)

Total population	34,156
Number of children	8,648
African-American	2
American Indian	15
Asian	57
Other	316
Hispanic	502
Children under 6	2,678
Children in single parent homes	14.2%
Median family income	$29,604

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Freeborn County



Freeborn County is located in southeastern Minnesota along the Iowa border. It is the twenty-seventh largest county in the state. The largest industries in 1993 were services, non-durable goods manufacturing, and durable goods manufacturing. Freeborn's per capita personal income was $16,194, slightly higher than the average Minnesota county.

Freeborn County had a reduction in the number of children born with low birth weight from 1991 to 1993, although the percentage is still above the average county. It also saw a reduction in the number of substantiated reports of child abuse and neglect. Areas of concern include an increase in the number and percent of births to teens. In addition, almost half of the two-year-olds in Freeborn County were not immunized, a rate higher than the state as a whole.

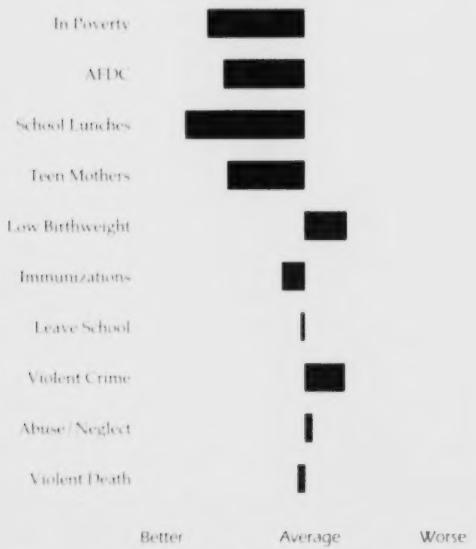
	1991		1992		1993		1993 State	
Family Economics								
Children in poverty (1990 census)	1,044	12.4%					142,202	12.4%
Children receiving AFDC	771	8.9%	841	9.7%	819	9.5%	125,260	10.7%
Children receiving free/reduced-price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	1,218	24.2%	1,284	25.7%	1,423	28.5%	224,860	27.6%
Birth Circumstances & Health								
Children born to teenage mothers	15	3.8%	8	2.2%	21	5.3%	1,958	3.0%
Children born at low birth weight	32	8.1%	27	7.3%	25	6.4%	3,320	5.1%
Children who were not fully immunized by age 2 (1992-93)			197	48.5%			27,172	39.3%
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	108	4.2%	119	4.7%	100	4.1%	12,387	3.4%
Children arrested for violent crime	4	19.0%	11	25.0%	10	23.8%	1,767	25.9%
Children abused and neglected	101		119		86		11,871	
Children dying violently	2		1		1		204	

Goodhue

Demographics (1990)

Total population	40,874
Number of children	11,514
African-American	51
American Indian	136
Asian	100
Other	35
Hispanic	93
Children under 6	3,713
Children in single parent homes	11.4%
Median family income	$35,151

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Goodhue County



Compared to the Average County 1993

Goodhue County is located in southeastern Minnesota along the Mississippi River and the Wisconsin border. It is the twentieth largest county in Minnesota. The Prairie Island Indian Reservation lies within its borders. The largest industries in the county were services, non-durable goods manufacturing, and transportation and public utilities. The county experienced a 13% increase in durable goods manufacturing from 1992 to 1993.

Goodhue County had a very low percentage of children who were poor in the 1990 census. Children in Goodhue County were also less likely to receive AFDC and free or reduced-price school lunch. Teen births decreased in 1993, although more children were born at low birth weight. Areas of concern include a significant increase in children committing violent crimes and in substantiated reports of child abuse and neglect.

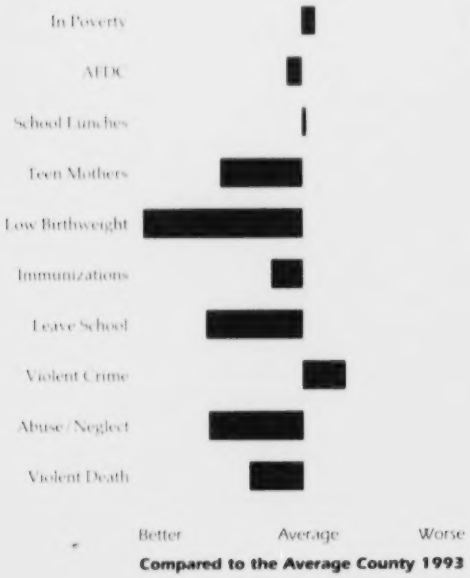
	1991		1992		1993		1993 State	
Family Economics								
Children in poverty (1990 census)	912	*8.1%*					142,202	*12.4%*
Children receiving AFDC	581	*5.0%*	503	*4.4%*	439	*3.8%*	125,260	*10.7%*
Children receiving free/reduced-price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	1,320	*16.5%*	1,457	*16.2%*	1,499	*16.7%*	224,860	*27.6%*
Birth Circumstances & Health								
Children born to teenage mothers*	10	*1.8%*	16	*3.1%*	8	*1.6%*	1,958	*3.0%*
Children born at low birth weight	21	*3.8%*	27	*5.2%*	28	*5.6%*	3,320	*5.1%*
Children who were not fully immunized by age 2 (1992-93)			237	*37.0%*			27,172	*39.3%*
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	79	*2.2%*	98	*2.5%*	84	*2.0%*	12,387	*3.4%*
Children arrested for violent crime	1	*5.3%*	10	*22.2%*	12	*24.5%*	1,767	*25.9%*
Children abused and neglected	85		86		109		11,871	
Children dying violently	3		0		2		204	

Grant

Demographics (1990)

Total population	6,248
Number of children	1,625
African-American	8
American Indian	9
Asian	10
Other	0
Hispanic	2
Children under 6	480
Children in single parent homes	8.7%
Median family income	$24,616

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Grant County



Grant County is a small county located in west central Minnesota. The largest industries in 1993 were services, state and local government, and farming. In 1993, Grant had a per capita personal income of $17,234. This ranked twenty-first in the state, and declined by 7% between 1992 and 1993, largely due to a 70% decrease in farm income.

Grant County's children are doing well on most indicators. Although the child poverty rate was slightly above the state average in the 1990 census, fewer children than average are receiving AFDC or free and reduced-price school lunches in Grant County. While the number of children born with low birth weight, children dropping out of school, and children abused and neglected all increased in 1992, these indicators decreased in 1993.

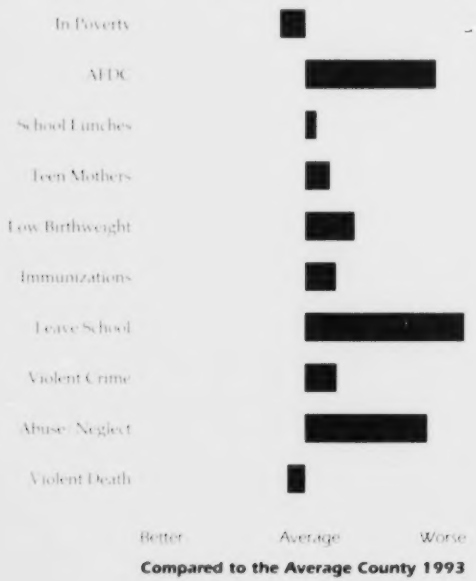
	1991		1992		1993		1993 State	
Family Economics								
Children in poverty (1990 census)	257	16.0%					142,202	12.4%
Children receiving AFDC	128	7.9%	136	8.4%	123	7.6%	125,260	10.7%
Children receiving free/reduced-price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	463	32.7%	462	33.3%	443	32.5%	224,860	27.6%
Birth Circumstances & Health								
Children born to teenage mothers	0		1	1.6%	1	1.5%	1,958	3.0%
Children born at low birth weight	1	1.8%	3	4.9%	0		3,320	5.1%
Children who were not fully immunized by age 2 (1992-93)			17	36.2%			27,172	39.3%
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	5	0.7%	7	1.0%	1	0.1%	12,387	3.4%
Children arrested for violent crime	0		1	25.0%	1	25.0%	1,767	25.9%
Children abused and neglected	2		14		5		11,871	
Children dying violently	0		1		0		204	

Hennepin

Demographics (1990)

Total population	1,044,901
Number of children	238,544
African-American	23,206
American Indian	5,860
Asian	11,698
Other	1,980
Hispanic	4,667
Children under 6	91,772
Children in single parent homes	22.0%
Median family income	$44,189

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Hennepin County



Hennepin County, which contains the city of Minneapolis and is part of the Minneapolis-St. Paul Metropolitan Statistical Area, is the largest county in the state. Hennepin County is ethnically and racially diverse, including African-American, American Indian, Asian and Chicano/Latino children and families. In 1993, Hennepin County as a whole had a per capita personal income of $28,266, the highest in the state. The county's largest industries in 1993 were services; finance, insurance, and real estate; and durable goods manufacturing.

The number of teen births decreased slightly in Hennepin County from 1992 to 1993. The percentage of children born with low birth weight has also held steady from 1991 to 1993. The number of children receiving AFDC in Hennepin County continues to increase and is significantly higher than in the average Minnesota county. The number of children for whom abuse and neglect is substantiated also continued to rise, as did the number of children committing violent crimes.

	1991		1992		1993		1993 State	
Family Economics								
Children in poverty (1990 census)	30,918	13.2%					142,202	12.4%
Children receiving AFDC	34,349	14.4%	36,965	15.5%	37,948	15.9%	125,260	10.7%
Children eligible for free/reduced-price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	36,828	27.0%	39,234	28.3%	48,220	33.4%	224,860	27.6%
Birth Circumstances & Health								
Children born to teenage mothers	557	3.3%	577	3.6%	558	3.5%	1,958	3.0%
Children born at low birth weight	967	5.8%	915	5.6%	911	5.8%	3,320	5.1%
Children who were not fully immunized by age 2 (1992-93)			5,969	42.1%			27,172	39.3%
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	3,364	6.0%	4,086	7.1%	3,554	5.9%	12,387	3.4%
Children arrested for violent crime	569	24.2%	602	24.3%	640	22.9%	1,767	25.9%
Children abused and neglected	3,048		3,692		3,983		11,871	
Children dying violently	35		37		32		204	

Houston

Demographics (1990)

Total population	18,544
Number of children	5,328
African-American	23
American Indian	34
Asian	52
Other	5
Hispanic	22
Children under 6	1,753
Children in single parent homes	12.9%
Median family income	$30,937

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Houston County

Houston County is located in the southeastern corner of Minnesota on the Iowa and Wisconsin borders. It is considered part of the LaCrosse, Wisconsin, Metropolitan Statistical Area. In 1993, Houston County had a per capita personal income of $16,641 which ranked thirty-first in the state. Services, state and local government and transportation and public utilities comprised the largest industries. The fastest growing was transportation and public utilities, which increased 21% since 1992.

Children in Houston County are less likely to live in poverty than are children in other counties. This county lowered the number of teenage births since 1991. After an increase in 1992, the number of children born with low birth weight has returned to a level better than the state average. On the down side, a higher-than-average percentage of children were not fully immunized by age two. Another area of concern is the sharp increase in the number of children dropping out of school.

	1991		1992		1993		1993 State	
Family Economics								
Children in poverty (1990 census)	515	9.8%					142,202	12.4%
Children receiving AFDC	227	4.3%	244	4.6%	276	5.2%	125,260	10.7%
Children receiving free/reduced-price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	774	20.2%	849	21.5%	836	21.4%	224,860	27.6%
Birth Circumstances & Health								
Children born to teenage mothers	7	2.6%	3	1.1%	3	1.2%	1,958	3.0%
Children born at low birth weight	5	1.9%	19	7.1%	5	2.0%	3,320	5.1%
Children who were not fully immunized by age 2 (1992-93)			132	43.6%			27,172	39.3%
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	9	0.6%	14	0.9%	19	1.1%	12,387	3.4%
Children arrested for violent crime	2	20.0%	2	25.0%	4	30.8%	1,767	25.9%
Children abused and neglected	14		36		41		11,871	
Children dying violently	1		1		0		204	

Hubbard

Demographics (1990)

Total population	14,971
Number of children	4,088
African-American	2
American Indian	118
Asian	7
Other	4
Hispanic	15
Children under 6	1,271
Children in single parent homes	13.2%
Median family income	$24,127

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Hubbard County

Compared to the Average County 1993

Hubbard County is a mid-sized county located in the north central portion of the state. In 1993, Hubbard County had a per capita personal income of $14,165, the eleventh lowest in the state. It increased 4% since 1992. Its largest industries were services, state and local government, and retail. Durable goods manufacturing was the fastest growing industry in 1993, increasing by 28%.

Hubbard County has successfully reduced its school drop-out rate from 1991 to 1993. Substantiated reports of child abuse and neglect also held steady in contrast to statewide increases. Hubbard County had a higher-than-average child poverty rate in the 1990 census. The number of children receiving AFDC has decreased from 1991 to 1993. On the other hand, the number of children approved for free and reduced-price school lunch is significantly higher than the average county, suggesting a continued problem with child poverty.

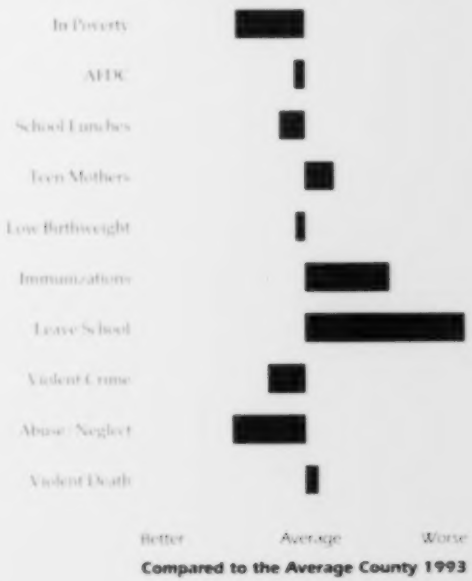
	1991		1992		1993		1993 State	
Family Economics								
Children in poverty (1990 census)	859	21.4%					142,202	12.4%
Children receiving AFDC	499	12.2%	474	11.6%	424	10.4%	125,260	10.7%
Children receiving free/reduced-price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	1,073	39.4%	1,183	42.2%	1,323	47.0%	224,860	27.6%
Birth Circumstances & Health								
Children born to teenage mothers	6	3.2%	8	4.8%	6	3.6%	1,958	3.0%
Children born at low birth weight	7	3.8%	12	7.2%	11	6.5%	3,320	5.1%
Children who were not fully immunized by age 2 (1992-93)			88	49.2%			27,172	39.3%
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	34	2.8%	37	3.0%	20	1.5%	12,387	3.4%
Children arrested for violent crime	0		4	26.7%	4	22.2%	1,767	25.9%
Children abused and neglected	62		66		61		11,871	
Children dying violently	0		0		1		204	

Isanti

Demographics (1990)

Total population	26,026
Number of children	8,107
African-American	29
American Indian	22
Asian	52
Other	8
Hispanic	42
Children under 6	2,510
Children in single parent homes	14.4%
Median family income	$35,154

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Isanti County



Isanti County is a moderate-sized county located in east central Minnesota on the northern edge of the Minneapolis-St. Paul Metropolitan Statistical Area. Services, state and local government and durable goods manufacturing were the largest industries in 1993. The fastest growing industry was non-durable goods manufacturing, which increased by almost 26%. Isanti County's per capita personal income of $16,354 ranked thirty-third in the state.

Fewer children are receiving AFDC and free and reduced-price school lunch in Isanti County than in the average county. Teen births rose in 1992 but dropped again in 1993. Isanti County had an increasing dropout rate which is higher than the average county. The county also saw an increase in children born with low birth weight, although it is still below the average county on this indicator.

	1991		1992		1993		1993 State	
Family Economics								
Children in poverty (1990 census)	795	*10.1%*					142,202	*12.4%*
Children receiving AFDC	663	*8.2%*	701	*8.6%*	636	*7.8%*	125,260	*10.7%*
Children receiving free/reduced-price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	1,352	*25.4%*	1,364	*25.0%*	1,606	*28.8%*	224,860	*27.6%*
Birth Circumstances & Health								
Children born to teenage mothers	9	*2.6%*	14	*4.1%*	12	*3.6%*	1,958	*3.0%*
Children born at low birth weight	9	*2.6%*	11	*3.2%*	15	*4.5%*	3,320	*5.1%*
Children who were not fully immunized by age 2 (1992-93)			178	*47.2%*			27,172	*39.3%*
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	101	*4.1%*	139	*5.6%*	171	*6.3%*	12,387	*3.4%*
Children arrested for violent crime	1	*14.3%*	0		1	*10.0%*	1,767	*25.9%*
Children abused and neglected	33		22		36		11,871	
Children dying violently	4		2		2		204	

Itasca

Demographics (1990)

Total population	41,052
Number of children	11,638
African-American	25
American Indian	538
Asian	33
Other	16
Hispanic	101
Children under 6	3,343
Children in single parent homes	16.7%
Median family income	$27,252

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Itasca County

Itasca County is located in the central section of northern Minnesota. Portions of Leech Lake Indian Reservation are located in the county. It is the nineteenth largest county in the state. Its per capita personal income of $15,050 ranks in the lower third of Minnesota counties. The largest industries in 1993 were state and local government, services, and non-durable goods manufacturing. The county experienced a 17% growth in the construction industry in 1993.

This county reduced the number of teenage births as well as the number of children born with low birth weight from 1991 levels. However, a higher-than-average number of children are not being fully immunized by age two. Although Itasca County had a higher-than-average poverty rate, the number of children receiving AFDC was less than 1992 levels and almost equal to 1991 levels. One area for concern is the increased amount of violent crime being committed by children.

	1991		1992		1993		1993 State	
Family Economics								
Children in poverty (1990 census)	2,392	*21.1%*					142,202	*12.4%*
Children receiving AFDC	1,547	*13.3%*	1,625	*14.0%*	1,577	*13.6%*	125,260	*10.7%*
Children eligible for free / reduced-price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	3,184	*37.7%*	2,906	*34.4%*	3,042	*35.3%*	224,860	*27.6%*
Birth Circumstances & Health								
Children born to teenage mothers	22	*4.7%*	30	*5.8%*	11	*2.3%*	1,958	*3.0%*
Children born at low birth weight	29	*6.1%*	16	*3.1%*	23	*4.9%*	3,320	*5.1%*
Children who were not fully immunized by age 2 (1992-93)			249	*44.4%*			27,172	*19.3%*
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	152	*3.9%*	89	*2.2%*	112	*2.7%*	12,387	*3.4%*
Children arrested for violent crime	2	*10.0%*	0		15	*53.6%*	1,767	*25.9%*
Children abused and neglected	24		14		36		11,871	
Children dying violently	3		3		4		204	

Children's Defense Fund of MN, 550 Rice Street, Suite 205, St. Paul, MN 55103, 612/227-6121

Jackson

Demographics (1990)

Total population	11,748
Number of children	3,153
African-American	0
American Indian	0
Asian	105
Other	45
Hispanic	47
Children under 6	979
Children in single parent homes	11.0%
Median family income	$28,370

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Jackson County

Compared to the Average County 1993

Jackson County is a small county located in southwestern Minnesota on the Iowa border. The largest industries in 1993 were state and local government, durable goods manufacturing, and services. The largest increase in industry was in durable goods manufacturing which increased by approximately 20% between 1992 and 1993. Jackson County's per capita personal income of $14,364 was the sixteenth lowest in Minnesota and declined by 7% since 1992.

Although the 1990 census shows a poverty rate slightly higher than average, the children in Jackson County were above average on most indicators. The number of children receiving free/reduced-price lunches increased, and teenage births rose slightly. The percentage of children dropping out of school in 1993 decreased from 1992-93, but remains higher than the 1991-92 level.

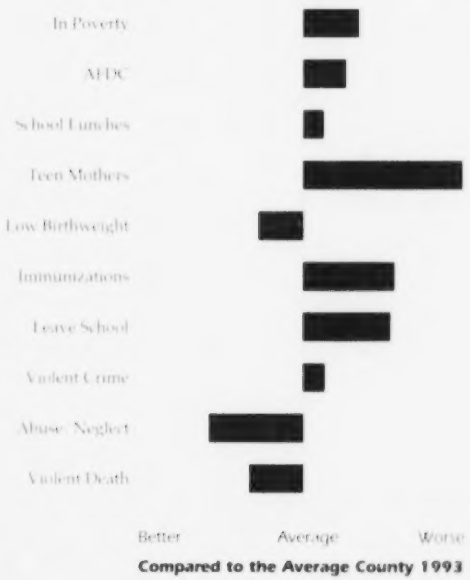
	1991		1992		1993		1993 State	
Family Economics								
Children in poverty (1990 census)	465	15.0%					142,202	12.4%
Children receiving AFDC	255	8.1%	260	8.2%	247	7.8%	125,260	10.7%
Children receiving free/reduced-price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	693	31.4%	683	32.4%	817	36.6%	224,860	27.6%
Birth Circumstances & Health								
Children born to teenage mothers	1	0.8%	1	0.8%	3	2.5%	1,958	3.0%
Children born at low birth weight	5	3.9%	5	4.2%	6	4.9%	3,320	5.1%
Children who were not fully immunized by age 2 (1992-93)			53	31.9%			224,860	27.6%
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	7	0.8%	19	2.1%	11	1.2%	12,387	3.4%
Children arrested for violent crime	2	14.3%	1	14.3%	0		1,767	25.9%
Children abused and neglected	12		21		8		11,871	
Children dying violently	0		1		0		204	

Kanabec

Demographics (1990)

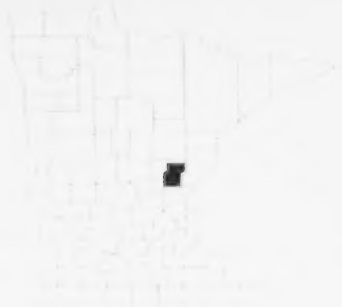
Total population	12,872
Number of children	3,865
African-American	2
American Indian	18
Asian	54
Other	25
Hispanic	42
Children under 6	1,172
Children in single parent homes	14.2%
Median family income	$27,445

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Kanabec County



Kanabec County is located in east central Minnesota and ranks fifty-ninth in size among Minnesota counties. In 1993, Kanabec had a per capita personal income of $14,814, which ranks sixty-eighth in the state. The largest industries in the county were retail, state and local government, and construction. The fastest growing industry was services, which increased by 14%.

The percentage of children born with low birth weight dropped dramatically over the three-year period to well below the state average. However, the percentage of children not fully immunized by age two is higher than the state average. The percentages of children receiving AFDC and free and reduced-price lunches saw little change from 1991 percentages. The number of violent crimes committed by children increased slightly but remained below the state average.



	1991		1992		1993		1993 State	
Family Economics								
Children in poverty (1990 census)	727	19.0%					142,202	12.4%
Children receiving AFDC	383	9.9%	412	10.7%	420	10.9%	125,260	10.7%
Children receiving free/reduced-price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	876	34.2%	886	33.6%	918	34.6%	224,860	27.6%
Birth Circumstances & Health								
Children born to teenage mothers	6	4.1%	10	5.8%	12	7.5%	1,958	3.0%
Children born at low birth weight	15	10.2%	8	4.7%	6	3.8%	3,320	5.1%
Children who were not fully immunized by age 2 (1992-93)			90	47.9%			27,172	39.3%
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	42	3.8%	45	3.9%	47	3.9%	12,387	3.4%
Children arrested for violent crime	1	12.5%	1	11.1%	4	21.1%	1,767	25.9%
Children abused and neglected	9		11		12		11,871	
Children dying violently	2		1		0		204	

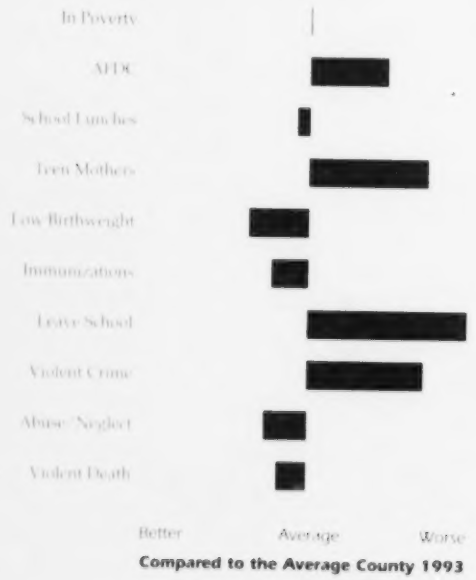
Children's Defense Fund of MN, 550 Rice Street, Suite 205, St. Paul, MN 55103, 612/227-6121

Kandiyohi

Demographics (1990)

Total population	40,012
Number of children	11,082
African-American	58
American Indian	122
Asian	66
Other	295
Hispanic	689
Children under 6	3,691
Children in single parent homes	12.6%
Median family income	$30,629

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Kandiyohi County



Kandiyohi County is located in west central Minnesota and is the twenty-third largest county in the state. During the summer months, the population includes migrant farmworkers and their children. In 1993, the largest industries in the county were state and local government, services, and retail trade. The fastest growing industry was durable goods manufacturing which increased by 34%. In 1993, Kandiyohi County had a per capita personal income of $16,773, among the upper third of Minnesota counties.

In Kandiyohi County, the number of children born with low birth weight has decreased between 1991 and 1993. Substantiated reports of child abuse and neglect have also decreased in 1993 after a one-year increase in 1992. Areas of concern include an increase in children committing violent crimes and an increase in teen births, bringing both indicators above average for Minnesota counties. The school dropout rate decreased in 1993-94, after increasing significantly from 1991-92 to 1992-93.

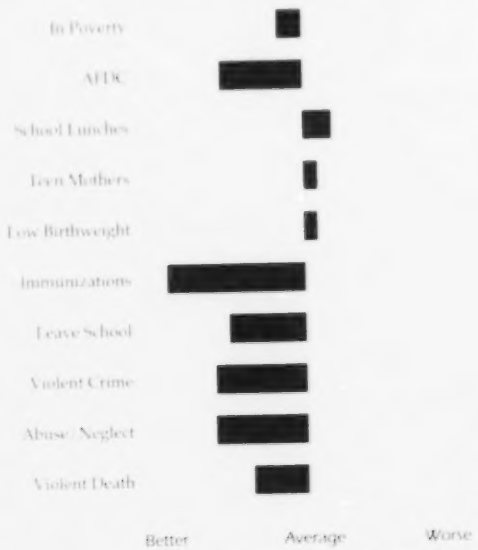
	1991		1992		1993		1993 State	
Family Economics								
Children in poverty (1990 census)	1,638	15.1%					142,202	12.4%
Children receiving AFDC	1,270	11.5%	1,408	12.7%	1,429	12.9%	125,260	10.7%
Children receiving free/reduced-price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	2,409	32.8%	2,346	29.6%	2,548	30.3%	224,860	27.6%
Birth Circumstances & Health								
Children born to teenage mothers	22	4.0%	24	4.0%	31	5.3%	1,958	3.0%
Children born at low birth weight	20	3.7%	26	4.3%	20	3.4%	3,320	5.1%
Children who were not fully immunized by age 2 (1992-93)			224	35.7%			27,172	39.3%
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	158	5.1%	289	8.7%	207	6.2%	12,387	3.4%
Children arrested for violent crime	17	34.0%	10	26.3%	26	38.8%	1,767	25.9%
Children abused and neglected	77		92		70		11,871	
Children dying violently	6		0		1		204	

Kittson

Demographics (1990)

Total population	5,808
Number of children	1,511
African-American	0
American Indian	0
Asian	2
Other	5
Hispanic	23
Children under 6	492
Children in single parent homes	10.3%
Median family income	$29,643

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Kittson County



Kittson County is in the northwest corner of Minnesota, bordering North Dakota and Canada. It is the sixth smallest county in Minnesota. The county's largest industries in 1993 were state and local government, services, and retail. Kittson County's per capita personal income of $16,157 ranked thirty-ninth in the state.

The number of children receiving AFDC in the county decreased from 1991 to 1993, although the number of children receiving free or reduced-price school lunch was still above average for Minnesota counties. Kittson County also had a better-than-average rate of immunization for two year olds, and had no children committing violent crimes. Slight increases in substantiated child abuse and neglect reports, teen births and children born with low birth weight should be monitored.

	1991		1992		1993		1993 State	
Family Economics								
Children in poverty (1990 census)	200	13.3%					142,202	12.4%
Children receiving AFDC	62	4.1%	59	3.9%	56	3.7%	125,260	10.7%
Children eligible for free/reduced-price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	385	33.5%	408	35.2%	417	35.6%	224,860	27.6%
Birth Circumstances & Health								
Children born to teenage mothers	0		0		2	3.3%	1,958	3.0%
Children born at low birth weight	1	1.9%	3	6.1%	3	5.0%	3,320	5.1%
Children who were not fully immunized by age 2 (1992-93)			25	26.0%			27,172	39.3%
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	2	0.4%	5	1.0%	3	0.6%	12,387	3.4%
Children arrested for violent crime	0		0		0		1,767	25.9%
Children abused and neglected	1		5		5		11,871	
Children dying violently	1		0		0		204	

Koochiching

Demographics (1990)

Total population	16,603
Number of children	4,219
African-American	13
American Indian	170
Asian	23
Other	54
Hispanic	74
Children under 6	1,223
Children in single parent homes	19.8%
Median family income	$28,211

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Koochiching County

Koochiching County is a mid-size county located in northern Minnesota on the Canadian border. Most of the Nett Lake Indian Reservation lies within the county. In 1993, Koochiching had a per capita personal income of $15,140, ranking sixty-first in the state. The largest industries in 1993 were non-durable goods manufacturing, services, and state and local government.

Koochiching County saw a reduction in the number of substantiated reports of child abuse and neglect. Areas of concern include an increase in children dropping out of school. The number of children not immunized by age two was also higher in Koochiching County than in the average county.

	1991		1992		1993		1993 State	
Family Economics								
Children in poverty (1990 census)	675	16.6%					142,202	12.4%
Children receiving AFDC	383	9.1%	402	9.5%	398	9.4%	125,260	10.7%
Children eligible for free/reduced-price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	663	26.0%	408	30.0%	677	26.5%	224,860	27.6%
Birth Circumstances & Health								
Children born to teenage mothers	7	3.3%	7	4.0%	6	3.1%	1,958	3.0%
Children born at low birth weight	8	3.8%	11	6.3%	10	5.2%	3,320	5.1%
Children who were not fully immunized by age 2 (1992-93)			79	45.7%			27,172	39.3%
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	33	2.5%	21	1.6%	39	2.9%	12,387	3.4%
Children arrested for violent crime	1	6.7%	0		0		1,767	23.9%
Children abused and neglected	25		18		17		11,871	
Children dying violently	3		3		1		204	

Lac Qui Parle

Demographics (1990)

Total population	8,944
Number of children	2,354
African-American	4
American Indian	5
Asian	11
Other	6
Hispanic	10
Children under 6	748
Children in single parent homes	6.5%
Median family income	$25,987

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Lac Qui Parle County

Compared to the Average County 1993

Lac Qui Parle County is located in southwestern Minnesota on the South Dakota border next to the Minnesota River. It is the thirteenth smallest county in the state. Its 1993 per capita personal income of $14,786 declined by 11% since 1992, largely due to an 80% decrease in farm income. The county's largest industries in 1993 were state and local government, services, non-durable goods manufacturing, and retail.

In general, children in Lac Qui Parle County are doing well on these indicators of child well-being. There has been a slight increase in children born with low birth weight, which should be monitored in the future. There has also been an increase in school dropouts, although the percentage is still well below the average county.

	1991		1992		1993		1993 State	
Family Economics								
Children in poverty (1990 census)	331	14.1%					142,202	12.4%
Children receiving AFDC	60	2.5%	63	2.7%	65	2.8%	125,260	10.7%
Children receiving free/reduced-price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	599	32.9%	638	34.6%	[illegible]	35.5%	224,860	27.6%
Birth Circumstances & Health								
Children born to teenage mothers	2	2.0%	2	2.7%	1	1.1%	1,958	3.0%
Children born at low birth weight	1	1.0%	2	2.7%	3	3.2%	3,320	5.1%
Children who were not fully immunized by age 2 (1992-93)			36	34.3%			27,172	39.3%
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	1	0.1%	2	0.2%	8	0.8%	12,387	3.4%
Children arrested for violent crime	0		0		0		1,767	25.9%
Children abused and neglected	4		8		2		11,871	
Children dying violently	0		0		1		204	

Lake

Demographics (1990)

Total population	10,448
Number of children	2,513
African-American	3
American Indian	23
Asian	15
Other	0
Hispanic	14
Children under 6	765
Children in single parent homes	13.8%
Median family income	$28,067

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Lake County

Lake County is located in northeastern Minnesota on the North Shore of Lake Superior. It is the nineteenth smallest county in Minnesota. Its per capita personal income of $15,776 increased 5% from 1992 to 1993. The largest industries in 1993 were durable goods manufacturing, state and local government and services. The fastest growing industry was mining, which increased 20% between 1992 and 1993.

In general, children in Lake County are doing well on these indicators of child well-being. However, the number of children dropping out of school has increased, although it is still below average for Minnesota counties. There also was a small increase in 1993 in the number of children committing violent crimes.

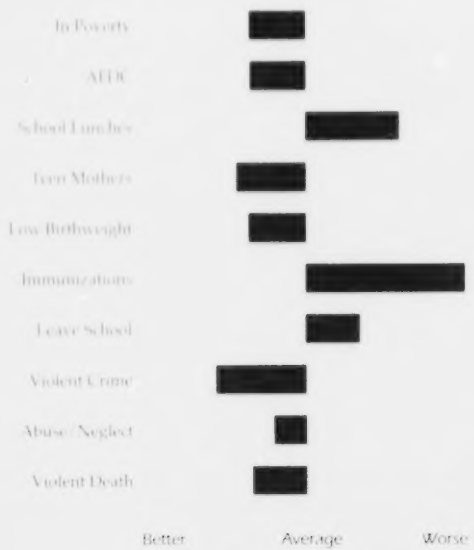
	1991		1992		1993		1993 State	
Family Economics								
Children in poverty (1990 census)	302	12.3%					142,202	12.4%
Children receiving AFDC	215	8.6%	200	8.0%	197	7.8%	125,260	10.7%
Children receiving free/reduced-price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	586	26.8%	721	32.3%	729	32.7%	224,860	27.6%
Birth Circumstances & Health								
Children born to teenage mothers	0		1	1.0%	2	2.1%	1,958	3.0%
Children born at low birth weight	5	4.2%	3	2.9%	2	2.1%	3,320	5.1%
Children who were not fully immunized by age 2 (1992-93)			61	36.7%			27,172	39.3%
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	11	1.1%	5	0.5%	21	2.0%	12,387	3.4%
Children arrested for violent crime	0		0		3	25.0%	1,767	25.9%
Children abused and neglected	12		25		21		11,871	
Children dying violently	0		0		0		204	

Lake of the Woods

Demographics (1990)

Total population	4,096
Number of children	1,143
African-American	0
American Indian	12
Asian	4
Other	0
Hispanic	12
Children under 6	405
Children in single parent homes	12.8%
Median family income	$29,121

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Lake of the Woods County



Compared to the Average County 1993

Lake of the Woods County is located in northern Minnesota on the Canadian border. It is the second smallest county in Minnesota. Portions of the Red Lake Indian Reservation are located in the county. In 1993, Lake of the Woods County had a per capita personal income of $15,468, which ranked fifty-sixth in the state. The largest industries in 1993 were services, state and local government, and non-durable goods manufacturing. The fastest growing industry from 1992 to 1993 was transportation and public utilities.

Lake of the Woods County is doing better than the average county on most indicators. Lake County saw a rise in children dropping out of school, bringing the dropout rate close to the state average. Substantiated reports of child abuse and neglect increased substantially in 1992, but decreased in 1993.

	1991		1992		1993		1993 State	
Family Economics								
Children in poverty (1990 census)	124	*11.0%*					142,202	*12.4%*
Children receiving AFDC	59	5.2%	64	5.6%	60	5.2%	125,260	*10.7%*
Children receiving free / reduced-price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	316	*41.4%*	341	*43.5%*	360	*44.0%*	224,860	27.6%
Birth Circumstances & Health								
Children born to teenage mothers	1	*1.8%*	2	*3.0%*	1	*1.8%*	1,958	3.0%
Children born at low birth weight	4	*7.0%*	0		2	3.5%	3,320	5.1%
Children who were not fully immunized by age 2 (1992-93)			37	*56.9%*			27,172	39.3%
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	7	2.3%	3	*0.9%*	11	3.2%	12,387	3.4%
Children arrested for violent crime	0		0		0		1,767	25.9%
Children abused and neglected	4		19		8		11,871	
Children dying violently	0		0		0		204	

Le Sueur

Demographics (1990)

Total population	23,372
Number of children	6,845
African-American	9
American Indian	7
Asian	50
Other	23
Hispanic	73
Children under 6	2,151
Children in single parent homes	10.4%
Median family income	$32,752

Le Sueur County in south central Minnesota ranks thirty-eighth in population among Minnesota counties. Le Sueur County's 1993 per capita personal income of $17,129 ranks twenty-third in the state. The largest industries in the county were durable goods manufacturing, services, and non-durable goods manufacturing. Earnings from services increased by 11% from 1992 to 1993.

Children in Le Sueur County are less likely to live in poverty. The percentage of children born with low birth weight dropped to well below the state average. This county reported no change in the number of teenage births. The county saw a modest increase in the number of child deaths.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Le Sueur County

Compared to the Average County 1993

	1991		1992		1993		1993 State	
Family Economics								
Children in poverty (1990 census)	582	8.6%					142,202	12.4%
Children receiving AFDC	346	5.1%	376	5.5%	369	5.4%	125,260	10.7%
Children receiving free/reduced-price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	1,029	23.0%	1,130	22.8%	1,425	25.6%	224,860	27.6%
Birth Circumstances & Health								
Children born to teenage mothers	9	2.8%	9	2.9%	9	2.9%	1,958	3.0%
Children born at low birth weight	20	6.2%	10	3.2%	9	2.9%	3,320	5.1%
Children who were not fully immunized by age 2 (1992-93)			120	38.7%			27,172	39.3%
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	25	1.3%	30	1.4%	31	1.3%	12,387	3.4%
Children arrested for violent crime	1	20.0%	2	16.7%	1	12.5%	1,767	25.9%
Children abused and neglected	44		34		62		11,871	
Children dying violently	1		2		4		204	

Lincoln

Demographics (1990)

Total population	6,899
Number of children	1,799
African-American	0
American Indian	7
Asian	11
Other	4
Hispanic	4
Children under 6	467
Children in single parent homes	8.6%
Median family income	$24,286

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Lincoln County

Compared to the Average County 1993

Lincoln County, the ninth smallest county in the state, is located in southwestern Minnesota on the South Dakota border. Its 1993 per capita personal income of $13,232 is the fourth lowest in Minnesota. The largest industries in 1993 were services, state and local government, and transportation and public utilities. Construction earnings increased by 10% from 1992 to 1993.

Lincoln County did quite well on many indicators of child well-being. The percentage of children born with low birth weight increased in 1992 but decreased in 1993 to a level just above the average county. Areas of concern include a substantial increase in substantiated reports of child abuse and neglect.

	1991		1992		1993		1993 State	
Family Economics								
Children in poverty (1990 census)	322	*18.3%*					142,202	*12.4%*
Children receiving AFDC (Region VIII North)	635	*5.7%*	668	*6.0%*	684	*6.1%*	125,260	*10.7%*
Children receiving free/reduced-price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	428	*38.4%*	451	*39.9%*	475	*42.0%*	224,860	*27.6%*
Birth Circumstances & Health								
Children born to teenage mothers	2	*3.0%*	1	*1.4%*	1	*1.4%*	1,958	*3.0%*
Children born at low birth weight	1	*1.5%*	5	*7.1%*	4	*5.8%*	3,320	*5.1%*
Children who were not fully immunized by age 2 (1992-93)			16	*31.4%*			27,172	*39.3%*
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	5	*0.8%*	3	*0.4%*	5	*0.7%*	12,387	*3.4%*
Children arrested for violent crime	0		0		0		1,767	*25.9%*
Children abused and neglected	8		14		18		11,871	
Children dying violently	0		0		1		204	

Children's Defense Fund of MN, 550 Rice Street, Suite 205, St. Paul, MN 55103; 612/227-6121

Lyon

Demographics (1990)

Total population	25,007
Number of children	6,750
African-American	27
American Indian	18
Asian	63
Other	106
Hispanic	129
Children under 6	2,125
Children in single parent homes	13.8%
Median family income	$30,582

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Lyon County

Compared to the Average County 1993

Lyon County is a mid-size county located in southwestern Minnesota. In 1993, Lyon County had a per capita personal income of $18,093, which was the fourteenth highest in the state. The largest industries in 1993 were non-durable goods manufacturing, state and local government, and services.

Lyon County had a consistently low dropout rate. Although the number of children born with low birth weight increased, it is still below average. Substantiated reports of child abuse and neglect increased significantly in 1993. Lyon County also had a higher-than-average number of children who were not immunized by age two.

	1991		1992		1993		1993 State	
Family Economics								
Children in poverty (1990 census)	750	*11.2%*					142,202	*12.4%*
Children receiving AFDC (Region VIII North)	635	*5.7%*	668	*6.0%*	684	*6.1%*	125,260	*10.7%*
Children receiving free/reduced-price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	1,513	*28.0%*	1,440	*27.0%*	1,519	*27.9%*	224,860	*27.6%*
Birth Circumstances & Health								
Children born to teenage mothers	8	*2.3%*	8	*2.2%*	9	*2.4%*	1,958	*3.0%*
Children born at low birth weight	4	*1.1%*	19	*5.3%*	15	*4.0%*	3,320	*5.1%*
Children who were not fully immunized by age 2 (1992-93)			208	*48.7%*			27,172	*39.3%*
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	38	*1.6%*	41	*1.7%*	27	*1.1%*	12,387	*3.4%*
Children arrested for violent crime	4	*25.0%*	2	*18.2%*	4	*20.0%*	1,767	*25.9%*
Children abused and neglected	41		37		86		11,871	
Children dying violently	2		2		6		204	

McLeod

Demographics (1990)

Total population	32,340
Number of children	9,301
African-American	46
American Indian	41
Asian	43
Other	60
Hispanic	175
Children under 6	3,162
Children in single parent homes	11.2%
Median family income	$35,033

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in McLeod County

Compared to the Average County 1993

McLeod County is located in the south central portion of the state and is the twenty-fifth largest county. During the summer months, the population includes migrant farmworkers and their children. The county's largest industries in 1993 were durable goods manufacturing, non-durable goods manufacturing and state and local government. Transportation and public utilities was the fastest growing industry, increasing by 10% from 1992 to 1993. McLeod County's per capita personal income was $18,314, the thirteenth largest in the state.

McLeod County had below-average rates of child poverty, children receiving AFDC and children receiving free and reduced-price school lunches. From 1991-92 to 1993-94, the number of children dropping out of school also decreased by nearly 50%. The county had an increase in children born with low birth weight, although the rate is still slightly below the average county.

	1991		1992		1993		1993 State	
Family Economics								
Children in poverty (1990 census)	664	7.2%					142,202	12.4%
Children receiving AFDC	335	3.6%	400	4.3%	360	3.9%	125,260	10.7%
Children receiving free/reduced-price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	857	17.3%	1,003	18.3%	1,092	19.5%	224,860	27.6%
Birth Circumstances & Health								
Children born to teenage mothers	7	1.5%	7	1.5%	5	1.1%	1,958	3.0%
Children born at low birth weight	13	2.8%	19	4.1%	20	4.5%	3,320	5.1%
Children who were not fully immunized by age 2 (1992-93)			24	41.4%			27,172	39.3%
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	77	2.8%	58	2.0%	34	1.1%	12,387	3.4%
Children arrested for violent crime	11	37.9%	11	28.2%	9	30.0%	1,767	23.9%
Children abused and neglected	113		132		129		11,871	
Children dying violently	4		3		0		204	

Mahnomen

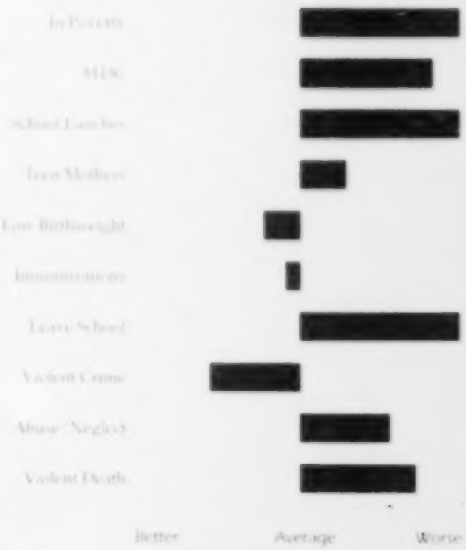
Demographics (1990)

Total population	5,065
Number of children	1,574
African-American	2
American Indian	518
Asian	2
Other	0
Hispanic	14
Children under 6	422
Children in single-parent homes	18.4%
Median family income	$20,406

Mahnomen County is located in northwestern Minnesota and is the fifth smallest county in the state. Portions of the White Earth Indian Reservation are located in the county. The county's 1993 personal per capita income was $12,344, the lowest in the state. The largest industries in 1993 were services, state and local government, and retail. The services industry increased 39%-from 1992 to 1993.

The 1990 census reported a child poverty rate of 34.3%, almost three times as high as the state average. Despite this, the number of children receiving AFDC dropped over the three-year reporting period. Children born with low birth weight were well within the state average as were children not fully immunized by age two. One area of concern is the increasing number of children dropping out of school.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Mahnomen County



Compared to the Average County 1993

	1991		1992		1993		1993 State	
Family Economics								
Children in poverty (1990 census)	527	34.3%					142,202	12.4%
Children receiving AFDC	295	18.7%	300	19.1%	252	16.0%	125,260	10.7%
Children receiving free/reduced-price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	1,109	66.6%	1,106	65.3%	1,143	66.4%	224,860	27.6%
Birth Circumstances & Health								
Children born to teenage mothers	2	3.2%	5	6.2%	3	3.9%	1,958	3.0%
Children born at low birth weight	3	4.8%	3	3.7%	3	3.9%	3,320	5.1%
Children who were not fully immunized by age 2 (1992-93)			65	37.8%			27,172	39.3%
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	6	0.8%	36	5.2%	55	7.4%	12,387	3.4%
Children arrested for violent crime	0		0		0		1,767	25.9%
Children abused and neglected	29		11		23		11,871	
Children dying violently	1		0		1		204	

Marshall

Demographics (1990)

Total population	11,055
Number of children	3,181
African-American	4
American Indian	15
Asian	10
Other	15
Hispanic	28
Children under 6	874
Children in single parent homes	10.8%
Median family income	$26,132

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Marshall County

Compared to the Average County 1993

Marshall County is a moderately small county located along the North Dakota border in the northwest corner of the state. During the summer months, the population of Marshall County includes migrant farmworkers and their children. Marshall County's per capita personal income of $13,470 is the sixth lowest in the state and declined 22% from 1992 to 1993. The largest industries in the county were state and local government, services, and retail.

Marshall County had a very low number of teen births and children committing violent crimes from 1991 to 1993. Children in Marshall County were also more likely to be fully immunized by age two. The number of substantiated reports of child abuse and neglect rose considerably in 1993. Marshall County also saw an increase in school dropouts in 1993, although the rate was still below the average county.

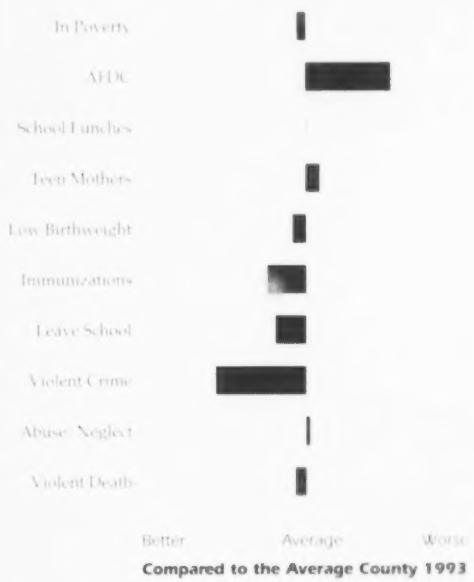
	1991		1992		1993		1993 State	
Family Economics								
Children in poverty (1990 census)	477	15.1%					142,202	12.4%
Children receiving AFDC	146	4.6%	170	5.3%	163	5.1%	125,260	10.7%
Children receiving free/reduced-price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	987	40.8%	950	38.8%	935	38.6%	224,860	27.6%
Birth Circumstances & Health								
Children born to teenage mothers	2	1.5%	3	2.7%	1	0.9%	1,958	3.0%
Children born at low birth weight	9	6.8%	3	2.7%	5	4.3%	3,320	5.1%
Children who were not fully immunized by age 2 (1992-93)			108	33.0%			27,172	39.3%
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	6	0.5%	4	0.3%	15	1.3%	12,387	3.4%
Children arrested for violent crime	0		2	66.7%	0		1,767	25.9%
Children abused and neglected	12		11		46		11,871	
Children dying violently	0		2		0		204	

Martin

Demographics (1990)

Total population	23,018
Number of children	6,165
African-American	10
American Indian	34
Asian	80
Other	29
Hispanic	46
Children under 6	1,941
Children in single parent homes	12.9%
Median family income	$29,856

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Martin County



Martin County is a moderate-sized county located in south central Minnesota on the Iowa border. The largest industries in Martin County were services, durable goods manufacturing, state and local government, and retail. In 1993, Martin County had a per capita personal income of $16,752, ranking twenty-eighth among Minnesota counties.

The number of children receiving AFDC in Martin County has declined from 1991 levels, although it is still somewhat higher than the average county. On many other indicators of child well-being, Martin County children are close to average for the state. The number of children dropping out of school increased from 1991-92 to 1993-94, although it is still below average. The number of substantiated reports of child abuse and neglect also increased.

	1991		1992		1993		1993 State	
Family Economics								
Children in poverty (1990 census)	871	14.4%					142,202	12.4%
Children receiving AFDC (Faribault/Martin)	888	14.4%	811	13.2%	820	13.3%	125,260	10.7%
Children eligible for free/reduced-price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	1,387	31.0%	1,375	30.4%	1,452	32.1%	224,860	27.6%
Birth Circumstances & Health								
Children born to teenage mothers	12	4.1%	5	1.8%	9	3.3%	1,958	3.0%
Children born at low birth weight	13	4.4%	15	5.4%	12	4.4%	3,320	5.1%
Children who were not fully immunized by age 2 (1992-93)			211	35.5%			27,172	39.3%
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	24	1.2%	30	1.5%	31	1.5%	12,387	3.4%
Children arrested for violent crime	0		5	23.8%	0		1,767	25.9%
Children abused and neglected	28		48		57		11,871	
Children dying violently	0		2		1		204	

Meeker

Demographics (1990)

Total population	21,014
Number of children	6,137
African-American	6
American Indian	8
Asian	63
Other	57
Hispanic	101
Children under 6	1,972
Children in single parent homes	11.0%
Median family income	$29,210

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Meeker County

Meeker County is a moderate-sized county in central Minnesota. The largest industries in 1993 were construction, state and local government, services, and durable goods manufacturing. The 1993 per capita personal income in Meeker County was $15,633, which is slightly below the average Minnesota county.

The county had no children committing violent crimes and a lower-than-average rate of child poverty, children receiving AFDC, and children receiving free or reduced-price school lunch. The county had an increase in children born with low birth weight, bringing the percentage slightly above the average county. The number of children not fully immunized by age two also was higher than the average county.

	1991		1992		1993		1993 State	
Family Economics								
Children in poverty (1990 census)	744	12.3%					142,202	12.4%
Children receiving AFDC	378	6.2%	378	6.2%	382	6.2%	125,260	10.7%
Children receiving free/reduced-price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	1,578	27.1%	1,601	27.8%	1,731	29.5%	224,860	27.6%
Birth Circumstances & Health								
Children born to teenage mothers	6	2.2%	10	4.1%	10	3.9%	1,958	3.0%
Children born at low birth weight	7	2.6%	8	3.3%	13	5.0%	3,320	5.1%
Children who were not fully immunized by age 2 (1992-93)			142	41.4%			27,172	39.3%
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	31	1.2%	29	1.1%	28	1.0%	12,387	3.4%
Children arrested for violent crime	0		0		0		1,767	25.9%
Children abused and neglected	11		13		19		11,871	
Children dying violently	3		4		0		204	

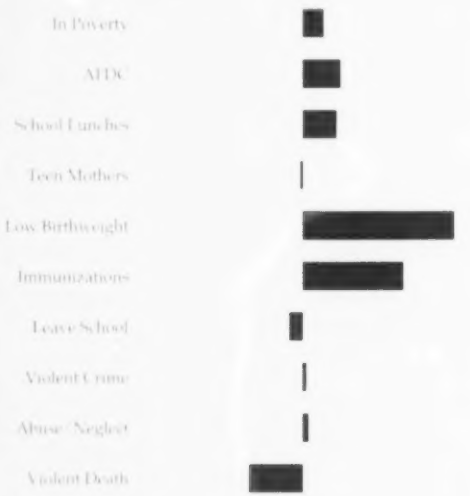
Children's Defense Fund of MN, 550 Rice Street, Suite 205, St. Paul, MN 55103; 612/227-6121

Mille Lacs

Demographics (1990)

Total population	18,776
Number of children	5,436
African-American	24
American Indian	259
Asian	13
Other	14
Hispanic	78
Children under 6	1,730
Children in single parent homes	17.7%
Median family income	$27,170

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Mille Lacs County



Compared to the Average County 1993

Mille Lacs County is located in east central Minnesota, and includes the Mille Lacs Indian Reservation. It ranks forty-seventh in population among Minnesota counties. Its per capita income of $14,911 has increased 5% since 1992. The largest industries in 1993 were services, durable goods manufacturing, and state and local government. The service sector of the economy increased by 21% from 1992 to 1993.

The number of substantiated reports of child abuse and neglect decreased from 1991 to 1993, in contrast to the statewide increase. The number of children dropping out of school increased, but is still below the average county. Areas of concern include the number of children born with low birth weight, which increased to well above the average county. The rate of children not immunized by age two is also high.

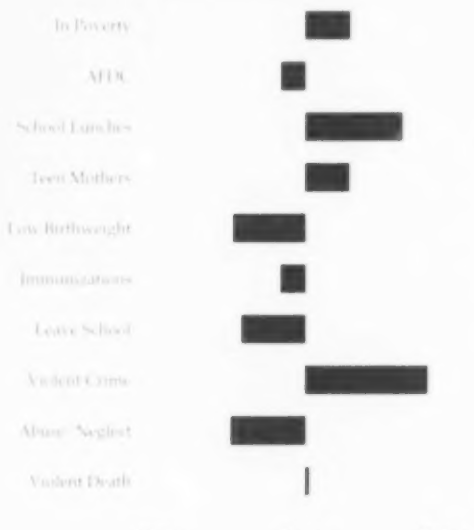
	1991		1992		1993		1993 State	
Family Economics								
Children in poverty (1990 census)	876	*16.5%*					142,202	*12.4%*
Children receiving AFDC	580	*10.7%*	575	*10.6%*	575	*10.6%*	125,260	*10.7%*
Children receiving free/reduced-price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	2,009	*34.6%*	1,982	*33.8%*	2,237	*36.3%*	224,860	*27.6%*
Birth Circumstances & Health								
Children born to teenage mothers	14	*5.6%*	8	*3.1%*	8	*3.0%*	1,958	*3.0%*
Children born at low birth weight	11	*4.4%*	17	*6.6%*	21	*8.0%*	3,320	*5.1%*
Children who were not fully immunized by age 2 (1992-93)			232	*48.8%*			27,172	*39.3%*
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	42	*1.6%*	46	*1.7%*	51	*1.8%*	12,387	*3.4%*
Children arrested for violent crime	5	*26.3%*	2	*9.5%*	3	*17.6%*	1,767	*25.9%*
Children abused and neglected	84		79		51		11,871	
Children dying violently	0		0		0		204	

Morrison

Demographics (1990)

Total population	29,701
Number of children	9,281
African-American	5
American Indian	6
Asian	64
Other	11
Hispanic	55
Children under 6	2,909
Children in single parent homes	11.2%
Median family income	$26,784

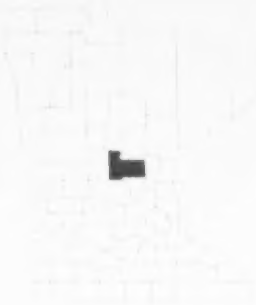
Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Morrison County



Compared to the Average County 1993

Morrison County is a mid-sized county located in central Minnesota. Its 1993 per capita personal income was $13,873, the seventh lowest in the state and a 4% increase since 1992. The largest industries in 1993 were services, state and local government, and retail trade. The fastest growing industry was construction, which increased by 17% between 1992 and 1993.

Morrison County had a better-than-average rate of children born with low birth weight, as well as a very low school dropout rate. Morrison County had a relatively high rate of child poverty in the 1990 census and higher than average percent of children receiving free or reduced-price school lunch. Teen births have increased to a rate higher than the average county.



	1991		1992		1993		1993 State	
Family Economics								
Children in poverty (1990 census)	1,672	18.2%					142,202	12.4%
Children receiving AFDC	691	7.4%	678	7.3%	653	7.0%	125,260	10.7%
Children receiving free/reduced-price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	3,063	44.5%	3,080	44.4%	3,109	44.4%	224,860	27.6%
Birth Circumstances & Health								
Children born to teenage mothers	8	1.9%	14	3.6%	16	3.9%	1,958	3.0%
Children born at low birth weight	13	3.1%	20	5.4%	13	3.2%	3,320	5.1%
Children who were not fully immunized by age 2 (1992-93)			185	36.8%			27,172	39.3%
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	36	1.2%	45	1.4%	27	0.8%	12,387	3.4%
Children arrested for violent crime	1	9.1%	1	6.7%	4	40.0%	1,767	25.9%
Children abused and neglected	45		51		40		11,871	
Children dying violently	3		3		2		204	.

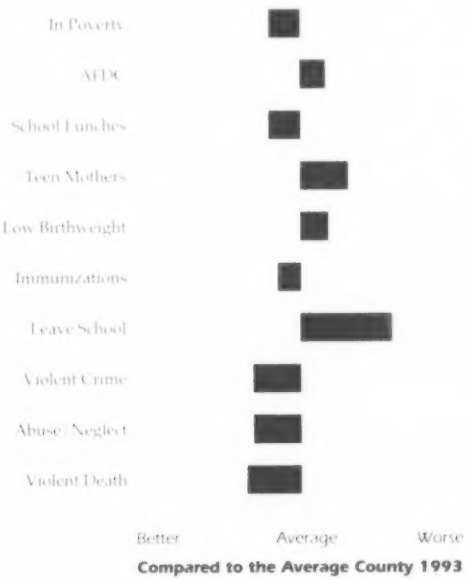
Children's Defense Fund of MN, 550 Rice Street, Suite 205, St. Paul, MN 55103, 612/227-6121

Mower

Demographics (1990)

Total population	37,597
Number of children	9,559
African-American	46
American Indian	14
Asian	115
Other	21
Hispanic	122
Children under 6	3,083
Children in single parent homes	15.4%
Median family income	$29,144

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Mower County



Mower County is located in southeastern Minnesota on the Iowa border. It is the twenty-second largest county in the state. Its 1993 per capita personal income of $18,929 was the eighth highest in Minnesota. In Mower County, the largest industries were non-durable goods manufacturing, services, and state and local government.

Mower County experienced only a small increase in the percentage of children receiving AFDC and free/reduced-price school lunch. This county had a significant reduction between 1992 and 1993 in children committing violent crimes. The percentage of children born with low birth weight and the number of teenage births remained steady.

	1991		1992		1993		1993 State	
Family Economics								
Children in poverty (1990 census)	1,197	12.8%					142,202	12.4%
Children receiving AFDC	895	9.4%	982	10.3%	942	9.9%	125,260	10.7%
Children receiving free/reduced-price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	1,677	26.5%	1,752	27.5%	1,686	28.0%	224,860	27.6%
Birth Circumstances & Health								
Children born to teenage mothers	26	5.0%	18	3.8%	18	4.0%	1,958	3.0%
Children born at low birth weight	26	5.0%	28	5.9%	24	5.3%	3,320	5.1%
Children who were not fully immunized by age 2 (1992-93)			180	37.0%			27,172	39.3%
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	95	3.5%	125	4.6%	112	4.0%	12,387	3.4%
Children arrested for violent crime	3	7.9%	8	23.5%	3	8.1%	1,767	25.9%
Children abused and neglected	54		54		58		11,871	
Children dying violently	2		1		0		204	

Murray

Demographics (1990)

Total population	9,675
Number of children	2,630
African-American	0
American Indian	0
Asian	3
Other	3
Hispanic	5
Children under 6	820
Children in single parent homes	8.5%
Median family income	$26,889

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Murray County

Compared to the Average County 1993

Murray County is located in the southwestern corner of Minnesota. It is the fourteenth smallest county in the state. The largest industries in 1993 were services, state and local government, and construction. The services industry increased by 10% between 1992 and 1993. Murray County had a per capita personal income of $14,349, which is a decline of 15% since 1992.

Murray County had low rates of teen births and children born with low birth weight. The county is about average in the number of children fully immunized by age two. Substantiated reports of child abuse and neglect increased from 1991 to 1992 but dropped somewhat in 1993.

	1991		1992		1993		1993 State	
Family Economics								
Children in poverty (1990 census)	415	15.9%					142,202	12.4%
Children receiving AFDC (Region VIII North)	635	5.7%	668	6.0%	684	6.1%	125,260	10.7%
Children receiving free/reduced-price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	415	28.1%	453	27.9%	520	32.5%	224,860	27.6%
Birth Circumstances & Health								
Children born to teenage mothers	1	0.8%	1	0.9%	2	1.9%	1,958	3.0%
Children born at low birth weight	3	2.3%	2	1.8%	4	3.7%	3,320	5.1%
Children who were not fully immunized by age 2 (1992-93)			53	41.1%			27,172	39.3%
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	2	0.3%	1	0.1%	0		12,387	3.4%
Children arrested for violent crime	0		0		0		1,767	25.9%
Children abused and neglected	8		19		13		11,871	
Children dying violently	0		1		0		204	

Children's Defense Fund of MN, 550 Rice Street, Suite 205, St. Paul, MN 55103, 612/227-6121

Nicollet

Demographics (1990)

Total population	28,314
Number of children	7,360
African-American	21
American Indian	17
Asian	71
Other	20
Hispanic	99
Children under 6	2,473
Children in single parent homes	10.7%
Median family income	$36,521

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Nicollet County

Nicollet County, located along the Minnesota River in south central Minnesota, is the thirty-third largest county in the state. The largest industries in 1993 were non-durable goods manufacturing, state and local government, and durable goods manufacturing. The fastest growing industry was state and local government, which increased by 10% from 1992 to 1993. Nicollet County's per capita income of $17,121 ranked thirtieth in the state.

Children in Nicollet County did better than the average county for many indicators of child well-being. Areas of concern include a small increase in the number of children committing violent crimes and a small increase in the percent of children born with low birth weight.

	1991		1992		1993		1993 State	
Family Economics								
Children in poverty (1990 census)	645	8.9%					142,202	12.4%
Children receiving AFDC	361	4.9%	387	5.3%	370	5.0%	125,260	10.7%
Children eligible for free/reduced-price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	582	23.1%	624	23.9%	630	23.4%	224,860	27.6%
Birth Circumstances & Health								
Children born to teenage mothers	6	1.6%	3	0.8%	7	2.1%	1,958	3.0%
Children born at low birth weight	18	4.8%	16	4.3%	17	5.0%	3,320	5.1%
Children who were not fully immunized by age 2 (1992-93)			71	33.2%			27,172	39.3%
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	20	1.8%	19	1.6%	19	1.6%	12,387	3.4%
Children arrested for violent crime	4	26.7%	5	26.3%	6	30.0%	1,767	25.9%
Children abused and neglected	249		147		118		11,871	
Children dying violently	1		1		0		204	

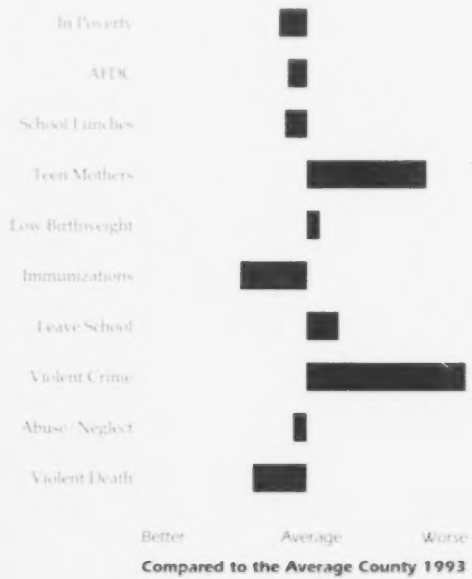
BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Nobles

Demographics (1990)

Total population	20,497
Number of children	5,386
African-American	3
American Indian	59
Asian	99
Other	141
Hispanic	175
Children under 6	1,643
Children in single parent homes	10.0%
Median family income	$28,427

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Nobles County



Nobles County is a mid-sized county located in southwestern Minnesota on the Iowa border. The largest industries in 1993 were non-durable goods manufacturing, state and local government, and services. Nobles County's per capita personal income in 1993 was $16,686, which ranked the county thirtieth in the state on this measure.

Nobles County had a decrease in substantiated reports of child abuse and neglect, in contrast to the state increase. It also did better than average on immunization rates. Nobles County had an increase in teenage births, rising above the average county on this indicator. A higher than average percentage of children were arrested for committing violent crimes in 1992 and 1993.

	1991		1992		1993		1993 State	
Family Economics								
Children in poverty (1990 census)	683	13.0%					142,202	12.4%
Children receiving AFDC	310	5.8%	359	6.7%	395	7.3%	125,260	10.7%
Children receiving free/reduced-price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	1,039	28.7%	1,073	27.9%	1,132	29.2%	224,860	27.6%
Birth Circumstances & Health								
Children born to teenage mothers	3	1.0%	14	4.9%	15	5.4%	1,958	3.0%
Children born at low birth weight	13	4.5%	13	4.6%	14	5.0%	3,320	5.1%
Children who were not fully immunized by age 2 (1992-93)			89	32.8%			27,172	39.3%
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	56	3.2%	24	1.4%	49	2.7%	12,387	3.4%
Children arrested for violent crime	0		10	47.6%	10	47.6%	1,767	25.9%
Children abused and neglected	49		45		44		11,871	
Children dying violently	0		1		0		204	

Norman

Demographics (1990)

Total population	8,059
Number of children	2,179
African-American	4
American Indian	46
Asian	6
Other	13
Hispanic	52
Children under 6	579
Children in single parent homes	10.2%
Median family income	$26,413

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Norman County

Compared to the Average County 1993

Norman County is located in northwestern Minnesota along the Red River and North Dakota border. During the summer months, the population of Norman County includes migrant farmworkers and their children. Norman is the eleventh smallest county in Minnesota with a close to average per capita personal income of $15,815. The per capita personal income declined 11% between 1992 and 1993, largely due to a 74% decline in farm income. The largest industries in 1993 were state and local government, services, and farming.

Children in Norman county had a very low school dropout rate. No births to teens were reported in 1993. Areas for concern include an increase in the number of children receiving AFDC and a higher-than-average percent of children not fully immunized by age two.

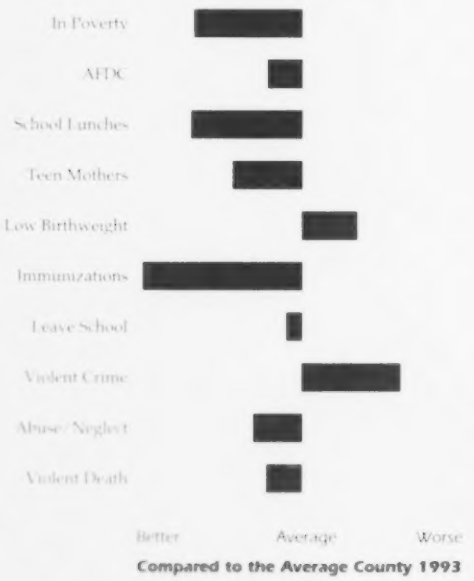
	1991		1992		1993		1993 State	
Family Economics								
Children in poverty (1990 census)	351	16.3%					142,202	12.4%
Children receiving AFDC	134	6.1%	164	7.3%	183	8.4%	125,260	10.7%
Children receiving free/reduced-price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	651	39.5%	656	40.0%	649	40.6%	224,860	27.6%
Birth Circumstances & Health								
Children born to teenage mothers	2	2.3%	1	1.0%	0		1,958	3.0%
Children born at low birth weight	5	5.7%	5	5.2%	5	5.9%	3,320	5.1%
Children who were not fully immunized by age 2 (1992-93)			42	49.4%			27,172	39.3%
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	5	0.7%	9	1.2%	6	0.8%	12,387	3.4%
Children arrested for violent crime	0		0		0		1,767	25.9%
Children abused and neglected	10		13		9		11,871	
Children dying violently	0		0		1		204	

Olmsted

Demographics (1990)

Total population	107,314
Number of children	29,484
African-American	279
American Indian	63
Asian	1,284
Other	29
Hispanic	234
Children under 6	11,155
Children in single parent homes	12.8%
Median family income	$43,196

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Olmsted County



Olmsted County in southeastern Minnesota is the eighth largest county in the state. Olmsted County's population includes a significant number of Southeast Asian children. Olmsted County's 1993 per capita income of $22,347 ranked fifth in the state. The largest industries in the county were services, durable goods manufacturing, and retail. Earnings from the retail sector increased by almost 10% from 1992 to 1993.

In 1990, Olmsted County reported one of the lowest poverty rates for children in Minnesota. The county saw a decline in the number of children dropping out of school from 1991-92 to 1993-94. The percentage of teenage births remained well below the state average. One area of concern is the increased number of children committing violent crimes. The number of children born with low birth weight also remained relatively high.

	1991		1992		1993		1993 State	
Family Economics								
Children in poverty (1990 census)	2,136	7.3%					142,202	12.4%
Children receiving AFDC	1,725	5.9%	1,823	6.2%	1,910	6.5%	125,260	10.7%
Children receiving free/reduced-price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	3,381	16.6%	3,560	17.9%	3,599	17.8%	224,860	27.6%
Birth Circumstances & Health								
Children born to teenage mothers	29	1.6%	24	1.4%	32	1.8%	1,958	3.0%
Children born at low birth weight	80	4.3%	103	5.9%	108	5.9%	3,320	5.1%
Children who were not fully immunized by age 2 (1992-93)			420	23.5%			27,172	39.3%
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	208	2.6%	219	2.7%	149	1.8%	12,387	3.4%
Children arrested for violent crime	16	25.4%	35	36.5%	37	35.6%	1,767	25.9%
Children abused and neglected	158		188		176		11,871	
Children dying violently	6		2		2		204	

Children's Defense Fund of MN, 550 Rice Street, Suite 205, St. Paul, MN 55103; 612/227-6121

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Otter Tail

Demographics (1990)

Total population	50,920
Number of children	13,448
African-American	11
American Indian	88
Asian	108
Other	52
Hispanic	99
Children under 6	4,281
Children in single parent homes	11.3%
Median family income	$26,805

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Otter Tail County

Compared to the Average County 1993

Otter Tail County, located in the west central region of Minnesota, is the thirteenth largest county in the state. The largest industries in 1993 were services, state and local government, and retail trade. Durable goods manufacturing increased 27% between 1992 and 1993. Otter Tail County's 1993 per capita income of $15,785 ranked forty-ninth among Minnesota counties.

Over the three-year period, Otter Tail remained close to the state average in all but two indicators. The number of children committing violent crimes rose in 1992 but returned to its previous low figure the following year. The percentage of children dropping out of school dipped in 1992 but also returned to the 1991 level the following year. A problem for Otter Tail County was the high percentage of children not immunized by age two. The number of teenage births increased slightly over the past three years.

	1991		1992		1993		1993 State	
Family Economics								
Children in poverty (1990 census)	2,169	16.4%					142,202	12.4%
Children receiving AFDC	885	6.6%	1,006	7.5%	991	7.4%	125,260	10.7%
Children receiving free/reduced-price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	2,828	30.7%	2,903	31.1%	2,949	31.3%	224,860	27.6%
Birth Circumstances & Health								
Children born to teenage mothers	11	1.7%	16	2.5%	20	3.5%	1,958	3.0%
Children born at low birth weight	33	5.2%	28	4.4%	28	4.9%	3,320	5.1%
Children who were not fully immunized by age 2 (1992-93)			366	53.4%			27,172	39.3%
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	113	2.8%	76	1.8%	106	2.4%	12,387	3.4%
Children arrested for violent crime	8	17.4%	16	29.6%	7	13.0%	1,767	25.9%
Children abused and neglected	137		115		114		11,871	
Children dying violently	1		2		2		204	

Pennington

Demographics (1990)

Total population	13,494
Number of children	3,632
African-American	3
American Indian	30
Asian	27
Other	67
Hispanic	92
Children under 6	1,096
Children in single parent homes	19.2%
Median family income	$27,301

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Pennington County

Pennington County is a moderate-sized county located in northwestern Minnesota. The largest industries in 1993 were services, state and local government, and durable goods manufacturing, which increased 22%. Its per capita personal income of $16,220 ranked thirty-sixth in the State.

The 1990 census reported a higher-than-average percent of children living in poverty in Pennington County. Consistent over time were the percentage of children receiving AFDC and children receiving free or reduced-price school lunch. Pennington County saw a significant increase in the number of children dropping out of school but still remained well below the state average. The number of children committing violent crimes, while small, increased to a level higher than the state average.

	1991		1992		1993		1993 State	
Family Economics								
Children in poverty (1990 census)	678	18.9%					142,202	12.4%
Children receiving AFDC	409	11.3%	418	11.5%	408	11.2%	125,260	10.7%
Children receiving free/reduced-price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	922	37.4%	881	36.2%	872	36.4%	224,860	27.6%
Birth Circumstances & Health								
Children born to teenage mothers	5	3.4%	7	3.8%	5	3.1%	1,958	3.0%
Children born at low birth weight	6	4.0%	7	3.8%	6	3.7%	3,320	5.1%
Children who were not fully immunized by age 2 (1992-93)			78	43.8%			27,172	39.3%
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	7	0.5%	2	0.2%	24	1.7%	12,387	3.4%
Children arrested for violent crime	1	12.5%	2	8.7%	4	36.4%	1,767	25.9%
Children abused and neglected	8		6		7		11,871	
Children dying violently	0		0		2		204	

Children's Defense Fund of MN, 550 Rice Street, Suite 205, St. Paul, MN 55103; 612/227-6121

Pine

Demographics (1990)

Total population	21,547
Number of children	5,972
African-American	44
American Indian	119
Asian	44
Other	22
Hispanic	40
Children under 6	1,765
Children in single parent homes	13.6%
Median family income	$26,131

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Pine County

Pine County is a moderate-sized county located in east central Minnesota on the Wisconsin border. The largest industries in 1993 were services, state and local government, and retail, which increased 29%. The county's per capita personal income of $14,084 was the ninth lowest in the state.

The number of children receiving AFDC declined slightly over the three-year period while the number of children receiving free or reduced-priced lunch increased slightly. Pine County did better than the average county in the number of children dropping out of school. One concern for Pine County is the high percentage of children not immunized by age two.

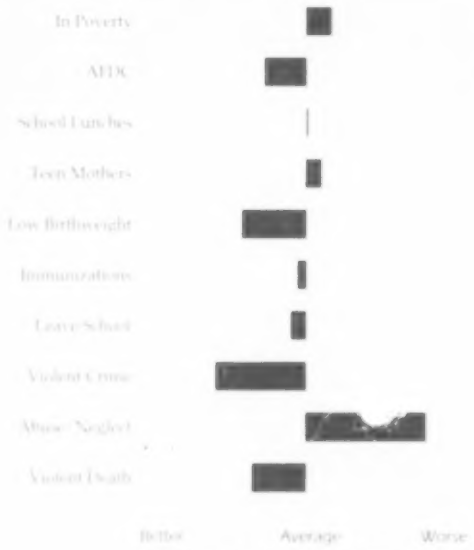
	1991		1992		1993		1993 State	
Family Economics								
Children in poverty (1990 census)	910	15.8%					142,202	12.4%
Children receiving AFDC	728	12.2%	736	12.3%	686	11.5%	125,260	10.7%
Children receiving free/reduced-price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	1,732	38.7%	1,747	38.8%	1,829	39.7%	224,860	27.6%
Birth Circumstances & Health								
Children born to teenage mothers	17	6.2%	8	3.0%	11	4.2%	1,958	3.0%
Children born at low birth weight	14	5.1%	10	3.8%	20	7.6%	3,320	5.1%
Children who were not fully immunized by age 2 (1992-93)			145	49.5%			27,172	39.3%
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	61	2.8%	75	3.6%	65	2.8%	12,387	3.4%
Children arrested for violent crime	2	11.1%	0		1	7.1%	1,767	25.9%
Children abused and neglected	11		10		17		11,871	
Children dying violently	0		1		3		204	

Pipestone

Demographics (1990)

Total population	10,529
Number of children	2,902
African-American	12
American Indian	97
Asian	13
Other	0
Hispanic	25
Children under 6	924
Children in single parent homes	10.6%
Median family income	$26,995

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Pipestone County



Compared to the Average County 1993

Pipestone County is located in the southwestern corner of the state along the South Dakota border. It's the seventeenth smallest county in Minnesota. The largest industries in 1993 were state and local government, services, retail, and wholesale trade. Non-durable goods manufacturing increased by 46% from 1992 to 1993. Pipestone County had a per capita personal income of $15,095, ranking sixty-second in the state.

Although the 1990 poverty rate exceeded the state average, Pipestone County saw a decrease in the number of children receiving AFDC from 1991 to 1993. It also had a small decrease in children born with low birth weight. Reports of child abuse and neglect increased from 1991 to 1993. The percent of children dropping out of school also increased significantly, although it remained well below average.

	1991		1992		1993		1993 State	
Family Economics								
Children in poverty (1990 census)	480	16.8%					142,202	12.4%
Children receiving AFDC	193	6.7%	163	5.6%	176	6.1%	125,260	10.7%
Children receiving free/reduced-price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	819	30.8%	876	32.8%	847	32.2%	224,860	27.6%
Birth Circumstances & Health								
Children born to teenage mothers	4	2.8%	7	4.9%	4	3.4%	1,958	3.0%
Children born at low birth weight	6	4.1%	7	4.5%	4	3.4%	3,320	5.1%
Children who were not fully immunized by age 2 (1992-93)			89	38.4%			27,172	19.3%
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	2	0.2%	6	0.7%	15	1.8%	12,387	3.4%
Children arrested for violent crime	0		0		0		1,767	23.9%
Children abused and neglected	24		65		48		11,871	
Children dying violently	0		1		0		204	

Polk

Polk County is in northwest Minnesota on the North Dakota border and the Red River. During the summer months, the county's population includes migrant farmworkers and their children. Its per capita income of $16,041 ranked in the middle among Minnesota counties. It declined over 7% from 1992 to 1993, reflecting a 72% decline in farm income. The largest industries in the county were services, state and local government, and retail.

From 1991 to 1993, Polk County significantly decreased the number of children born with low birth weight. Areas of concern include the dropout rate, which has increased consistently from 1991-92 to 1993-94, and an increase in the number of children committing violent crimes.

Demographics (1990)

Total population	33,466
Number of children	9,161
African-American	39
American Indian	135
Asian	52
Other	184
Hispanic	416
Children under 6	2,885
Children in single parent homes	15.3%
Median family income	$28,373

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Polk County

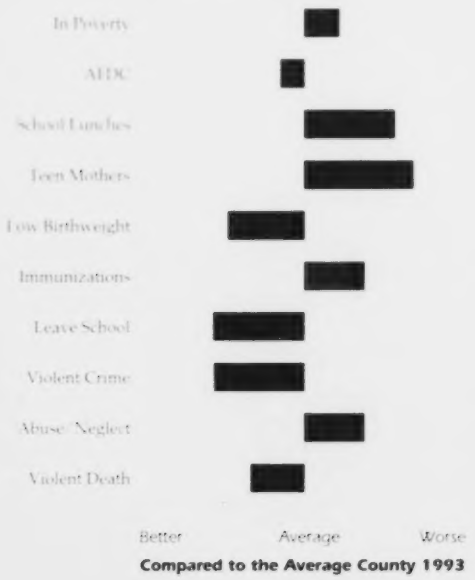
	1991		1992		1993		1993 State	
Family Economics								
Children in poverty (1990 census)	1,467	16.3%					142,202	12.4%
Children receiving AFDC	1,722	18.8%	1,759	19.2%	1,725	18.8%	125,260	10.7%
Children receiving free/reduced-price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	2,329	35.3%	2,416	35.8%	2,466	37.0%	224,860	27.6%
Birth Circumstances & Health								
Children born to teenage mothers	12	2.5%	17	3.8%	11	2.7%	1,958	3.0%
Children born at low birth weight	23	4.8%	21	4.6%	12	3.0%	3,320	5.1%
Children who were not fully immunized by age 2 (1992-93)			290	43.8%			27,172	39.3%
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	78	2.7%	80	2.6%	87	2.8%	12,387	3.4%
Children arrested for violent crime	2	5.4%	4	11.8%	11	19.0%	1,767	25.9%
Children abused and neglected	147		150		158		11,871	
Children dying violently	2		2		2		204	

Pope

Demographics (1990)

Total population	10,749
Number of children	2,971
African-American	7
American Indian	11
Asian	2
Other	1
Hispanic	2
Children under 6	933
Children in single parent homes	11.1%
Median family income	$24,177

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Pope County



Pope County is a moderately small county in west central Minnesota. It ranks thirteenth lowest among Minnesota counties with $14,229 per capita personal income. The largest industries in 1993 were services, state and local government, and durable goods manufacturing. The fastest growing industry was state and local government, which increased almost 10%.

The poverty rate for children in Pope County was well above the state average. In contrast, the percent of children receiving AFDC remained well below the state average. Children eligible for the school lunch program increased to much higher than average. Pope County reports no violent crimes committed by children in 1993. Substantiated reports of children abused and neglected decreased between 1992 and 1993 but remained slightly higher than 1991.

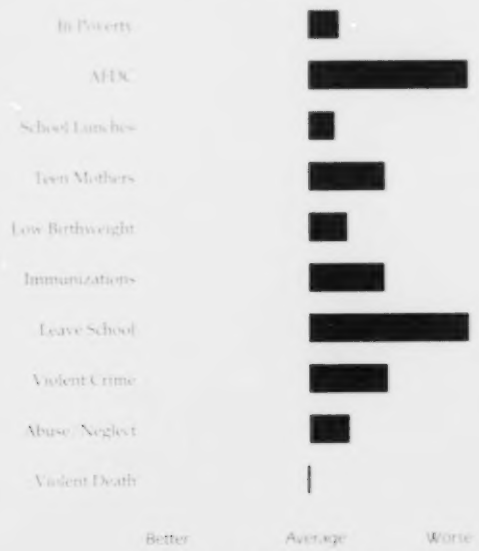
	1991		1992		1993		1993 State	
Family Economics								
Children in poverty (1990 census)	516	17.5%					142,202	12.4%
Children receiving AFDC	170	5.7%	189	6.4%	210	7.1%	125,260	10.7%
Children eligible for free/reduced-price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	593	32.7%	746	40.8%	834	43.6%	224,860	27.6%
Birth Circumstances & Health								
Children born to teenage mothers	2	1.5%	1	0.9%	5	5.2%	1,958	3.0%
Children born at low birth weight	6	4.6%	5	4.3%	3	3.1%	3,320	5.1%
Children who were not fully immunized by age 2 (1992-93)			62	44.9%			27,172	39.3%
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	5	0.7%	2	0.3%	2	0.2%	12,387	3.4%
Children arrested for violent crime	7	43.8%	3	20.0%	0		1,767	25.9%
Children abused and neglected	25		57		38		11,871	
Children dying violently	0		1		0		204	

Ramsey

Demographics (1990)

Total population	498,222
Number of children	119,997
African-American	8,718
American Indian	1,547
Asian	12,382
Other	2,369
Hispanic	5,446
Children under 6	46,279
Children in single parent homes	22.5%
Median family income	$39,926

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Ramsey County



Ramsey County is the second largest county in Minnesota and is part of the Minneapolis-St. Paul Metropolitan Statistical Area. Ramsey County is ethnically and racially diverse, with significant numbers of African-American, American Indian, Southeast Asian and Chicano/Latino children. The largest industries in 1993 were services, non-durable goods manufacturing, and state and local government. In 1993, Ramsey had a per capita personal income of $23,826, the second highest in the state.

Ramsey County reduced the number of children born with low birth weight from 1991 to 1993. The percentage of children receiving AFDC increased over the three-year period while percentages of children receiving free or reduced-price school lunch remained the same. The number of teenage births increased slightly since 1991, as did arrests for violent crime. The number of children not immunized by age two also was well above the state average.

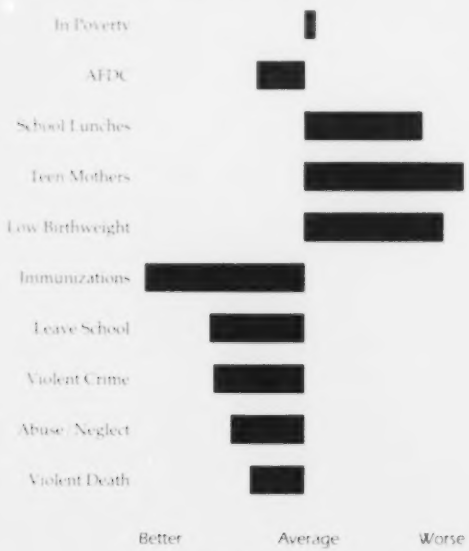
	1991		1992		1993		1993 State	
Family Economics								
Children in poverty (1990 census)	20,329	17.2%					142,202	12.4%
Children receiving AFDC	20,795	17.3%	22,972	19.1%	24,509	20.4%	125,260	10.7%
Children receiving free/reduced-price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	26,707	35.7%	25,950	33.0%	28,421	35.3%	224,860	27.6%
Birth Circumstances & Health								
Children born to teenage mothers	320	3.9%	339	4.2%	350	4.5%	1,958	3.0%
Children born at low birth weight	485	3.9%	389	4.9%	428	5.5%	3,320	5.1%
Children who were not fully immunized by age 2 (1992-93)			3,805	46.3%			27,172	39.3%
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	1,844	6.4%	2,464	8.0%	2,376	7.4%	12,387	3.4%
Children arrested for violent crime	325	26.5%	381	32.2%	394	31.6%	1,767	25.9%
Children abused and neglected	1,233		1,359		1,377		11,871	
Children dying violently	13		20		23		204	

Red Lake

Demographics (1990)

Total population	4,592
Number of children	1,354
African-American	0
American Indian	1
Asian	5
Other	36
Hispanic	43
Children under 6	396
Children in single parent homes	8.4%
Median family income	$25,141

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Red Lake County



Compared to the Average County 1993

Red Lake County is the fourth smallest county in the state and is located in northwestern Minnesota. Its per capita income of $12,681 was the second lowest in the state and declined over 10% from 1992. The largest industries in 1993 were state and local government, services, and transportation and public utilities. Durable goods manufacturing increased by approximately 60% between 1992 and 1993.

Red Lake County did not experience significant decreases in child well-being for most of the indicators. The county did very well on the percent of children dropping out of school. An increase in teen births in 1993 should be monitored, as well as an increase in children born with low birth weight.

	1991		1992		1993		1993 State	
Family Economics								
Children in poverty (1990 census)	213	15.8%					142,202	12.4%
Children receiving AFDC	69	5.1%	90	6.6%	77	5.7%	125,260	10.7%
Children receiving free/reduced-price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	507	45.0%	552	49.2%	531	47.1%	224,860	27.6%
Birth Circumstances & Health								
Children born to teenage mothers	1	2.2%	0		4	7.7%	1,958	3.0%
Children born at low birth weight	3	6.7%	3	5.2%	4	7.7%	3,320	5.1%
Children who were not fully immunized by age 2 (1992-93)			15	23.1%			27,172	39.3%
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	5	0.9%	1	0.2%	1	0.2%	12,387	3.4%
Children arrested for violent crime	0		0		0		1,767	25.9%
Children abused and neglected	3		3		6		11,871	
Children dying violently	0		0		0		204	

Redwood

Redwood County is a moderate-sized county located in southwestern Minnesota along the Minnesota River. The Lower Sioux Indian Reservation lies on its border. Its per capita personal income of $16,600 ranked forty-third in the state. The largest industries in 1993 were durable goods manufacturing, state and local government, and retail.

Redwood County had a better-than-average rate of immunization by age two. Areas of concern include a sharp increase in 1993 in substantiated reports of child abuse and neglect. The number of children committing violent crimes also increased, as did the percentage of children born with low birth weight.

Demographics (1990)

Total population	17,299
Number of children	4,856
African-American	4
American Indian	133
Asian	18
Other	4
Hispanic	20
Children under 6	1,582
Children in single parent homes	10.70%
Median family income	$27,102

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Redwood County

Compared to the Average County 1993

	1991		1992		1993		1993 State	
Family Economics								
Children in poverty (1990 census)	704	14.6%					142,202	12.4%
Children receiving AFDC	177	3.6%	156	3.2%	189	3.9%	125,260	10.7%
Children receiving free/reduced-price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	895	26.7%	967	28.5%	1,005	29.9%	224,860	27.6%
Birth Circumstances & Health								
Children born to teenage mothers	2	0.9%	6	2.7%	5	2.3%	1,958	3.0%
Children born at low birth weight	5	2.2%	6	2.7%	10	4.6%	3,320	5.1%
Children who were not fully immunized by age 2 (1992-93)			84	29.0%			27,172	39.3%
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	15	1.0%	17	1.1%	6	0.4%	12,387	3.4%
Children arrested for violent crime	0		4	15.4%	7	29.2%	1,767	23.9%
Children abused and neglected	23		15		68		11,871	
Children dying violently	0		0		0		204	

Renville

Demographics (1990)

Total population	17,913
Number of children	4,943
African-American	0
American Indian	25
Asian	32
Other	87
Hispanic	155
Children under 6	1,593
Children in single parent homes	10.4%
Median family income	$28,109

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Renville County

Renville County is a moderate-sized county in south central Minnesota. The Upper Sioux Indian Reservation lies along its border. During the summer months, the population includes migrant farmworkers and their children. The largest industries in 1993 were services, state and local government, and non-durable goods manufacturing. The county's per capita income of $15,642 declined almost 12% since 1992.

Renville County had a low high school dropout rate, and a lower-than-average percentage of children born with low birth weight. The number of children receiving AFDC increased substantially from 1991 to 1993. Substantiated reports of child abuse and neglect also increased over those years.

	1991		1992		1993		1993 State	
Family Economics								
Children in poverty (1990 census)	857	17.5%					142,202	12.4%
Children receiving AFDC	277	5.6%	396	8.0%	502	10.2%	125,260	10.7%
Children eligible for free/reduced-price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	901	26.8%	968	29.8%	1,008	30.7%	224,860	27.6%
Birth Circumstances & Health								
Children born to teenage mothers	5	2.4%	7	3.3%	7	3.8%	1,958	3.0%
Children born at low birth weight	3	1.4%	8	3.8%	5	2.7%	3,320	5.1%
Children who were not fully immunized by age 2 (1992-93)			93	32.2%			27,172	39.3%
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	13	0.9%	23	1.8%	15	1.1%	12,387	3.4%
Children arrested for violent crime	0		0		0		1,767	25.9%
Children abused and neglected	28		27		45		11,871	
Children dying violently	2		0		3		204	

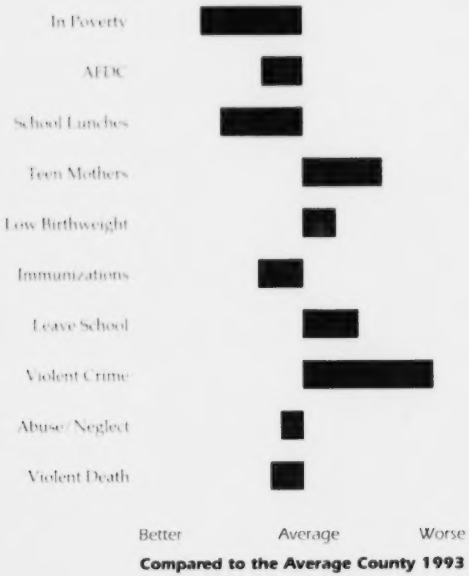
Children's Defense Fund of MN, 550 Rice Street, Suite 205, St. Paul, MN 55103; 612/227-6121

Rice

Demographics (1990)

Total population	49,505
Number of children	12,900
African-American	34
American Indian	63
Asian	141
Other	42
Hispanic	144
Children under 6	4,176
Children in single parent homes	12.9%
Median family income	$35,587

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Rice County



Rice County is located in the southeast region of Minnesota. During the summer months, the population of Rice County includes migrant farmworkers and their children. It is the fifteenth largest county in the state and is ranked twenty-fifth with its 1993 per capita income of $16,847. The largest industries in 1993 were services, state and local government, and durable goods manufacturing. Non-durable goods manufacturing was the fastest growing industry, increasing by 16%.

The 1990 census reported one of the lowest poverty rates for children in the state. Unlike many other counties, Rice County had fewer children receiving free or reduced-price school lunch while the number of children receiving AFDC rose slightly from 1991 to 1993. The percentage of children committing violent crimes increased dramatically from 1991 to 1993. Teenage births also increased steadily over the same period.

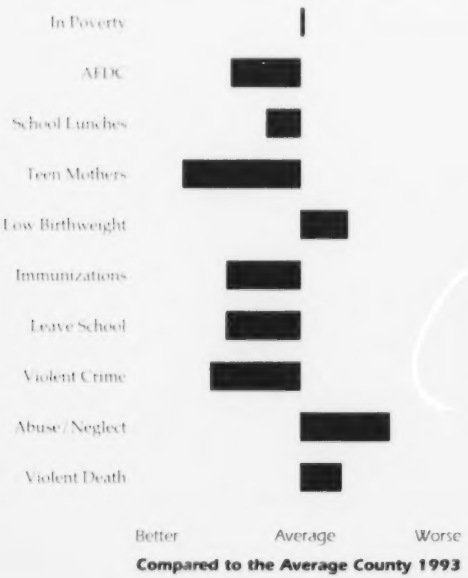
	1991		1992		1993		1993 State	
Family Economics								
Children in poverty (1990 census)	981	7.8%					142,202	12.4%
Children receiving AFDC	688	5.3%	784	6.1%	789	6.1%	125,260	10.7%
Children eligible for free/reduced-price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	2,154	25.2%	2,055	23.6%	1,898	21.5%	224,860	27.6%
Birth Circumstances & Health								
Children born to teenage mothers	18	2.8%	21	3.5%	27	4.6%	1,958	3.0%
Children born at low birth weight	26	4.0%	32	5.3%	32	5.4%	3,320	5.1%
Children who were not fully immunized by age 2 (1992-93)			238	34.9%			27,172	39.3%
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	126	3.6%	134	3.7%	132	3.2%	12,387	3.4%
Children arrested for violent crime	6	25.0%	14	41.2%	17	41.5%	1,767	25.9%
Children abused and neglected	23		73		98		11,871	
Children dying violently	3		1		1		204	

Rock

Demographics (1990)

Total population	9,826
Number of children	2,803
African-American	6
American Indian	24
Asian	18
Other	2
Hispanic	9
Children under 6	859
Children in single parent homes	9.0%
Median family income	$28,811

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Rock County



Rock County is located in the southwest corner of Minnesota, bordering South Dakota and Iowa. It is the fifteenth smallest county in the state. The largest industries in 1993 were services; state and local government; non-durable goods manufacturing; and finance, insurance, and real estate. The per capita income of $16,162 reflected a 6% decline from 1992 to 1993, largely a result of a 76% decrease in farm income.

The 1990 census reported a poverty rate for children in Rock County that was above the state average. However, the rate of children receiving AFDC declined steadily from 1991 to 1993 and was lower than the state average. Like much of the state, this county saw a dramatic increase in substantiated reports of child abuse and neglect.

	1991		1992		1993		1993 State	
Family Economics								
Children in poverty (1990 census)	427	15.3%					142,202	12.4%
Children receiving AFDC	144	5.1%	125	4.5%	124	4.4%	125,260	10.7%
Children eligible for free/reduced-price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	485	26.2%	513	27.3%	526	27.6%	224,860	27.6%
Birth Circumstances & Health								
Children born to teenage mothers	3	2.5%	2	1.6%	1	0.8%	1,958	3.0%
Children born at low birth weight	2	1.7%	4	3.2%	7	5.7%	3,320	5.1%
Children who were not fully immunized by age 2 (1992-93)			43	32.1%			27,172	39.3%
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	10	1.2%	6	0.7%	5	0.6%	12,387	3.4%
Children arrested for violent crime	0		0		0		1,767	25.9%
Children abused and neglected	11		24		41		11,871	
Children dying violently	0		1		1		204	

Children's Defense Fund of MN, 550 Rice Street, Suite 205, St. Paul, MN 55103; 612/227-6121

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Roseau

Roseau County, in northern Minnesota, is the 56th largest county in the state. Its 1993 per capita income of $15,556 reflected an almost 6% decline from 1992. Its largest industries were durable goods manufacturing, state and local government, and services. The services industry increased by 9% from 1992 to 1993.

Roseau County had a significant reduction in the number of children born with low birth weight from 1991 to 1993. The percent of children receiving AFDC was much lower than the average county, although the proportion receiving free or reduced-price school lunch was near average. The county had a higher-than-average percentage of children not fully immunized by age two.

Demographics (1990)

Total population	15,042
Number of children	4,658
African-American	2
American Indian	68
Asian	39
Other	6
Hispanic	10
Children under 6	1,702
Children in single parent homes	12.8%
Median family income	$30,251

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Roseau County

	1991		1992		1993		1993 State	
Family Economics								
Children in poverty (1990 census)	544	*11.8%*					142,202	*12.4%*
Children receiving AFDC	147	*3.2%*	153	*3.3%*	153	*3.3%*	125,260	*10.7%*
Children eligible for free/reduced-price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	997	*29.3%*	1,069	*31.2%*	1,099	*32.4%*	224,860	*27.6%*
Birth Circumstances & Health								
Children born to teenage mothers	5	*2.2%*	7	*2.8%*	6	*2.5%*	1,958	*3.0%*
Children born at low birth weight	11	*4.8%*	14	*5.6%*	4	*1.7%*	3,320	*5.1%*
Children who were not fully immunized by age 2 (1992-93)			137	*46.6%*			27,172	*39.3%*
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	12	*0.8%*	11	*0.7%*	10	*0.7%*	12,387	*3.4%*
Children arrested for violent crime	0		0		1	*7.1%*	1,767	*25.9%*
Children abused and neglected	16		12		17		11,871	
Children dying violently	3		1		2		204	

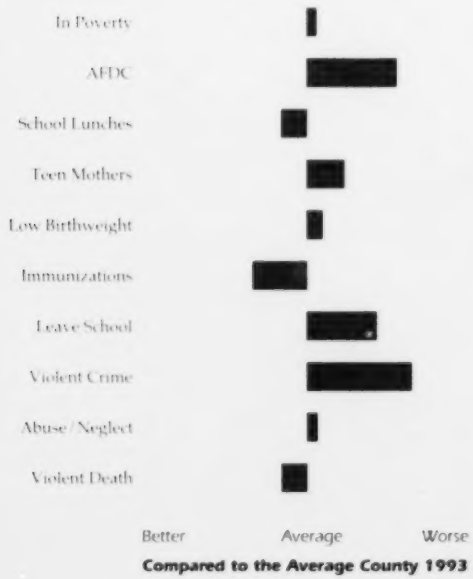
BEST COPY AVAILABLE

St. Louis

Demographics (1990)

Total population	199,145
Number of children	48,419
African-American	364
American Indian	1,464
Asian	432
Other	98
Hispanic	395
Children under 6	14,875
Children in single parent homes	19.6%
Median family income	$31,150

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in St. Louis County



St. Louis County is located on the North Shore of Lake Superior in northeast Minnesota and is part of the Duluth-Superior Metropolitan Statistical Area. It is the fifth largest county in Minnesota. Portions of both the Fond du Lac and Nett Lake Indian Reservations are located in the county. The largest industries in 1993 were services, state and local government, and retail. Its per capita personal income of $17,872 ranked seventeenth in the state.

The county had 1993 declines in the number of child deaths and in the number of substantiated reports of children abused and neglected. The percentage of children not immunized by age two was better than the state average. Concerns include an increased number of children committing violent crimes. The number of teenage births has also risen steadily each year.

	1991		1992		1993		1993 State	
Family Economics								
Children in poverty (1990 census)	7,417	*15.7%*					142,202	*12.4%*
Children receiving AFDC	7,547	*15.6%*	6,922	*14.3%*	6,576	*13.6%*	125,260	*10.7%*
Children eligible for free/reduced-price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	9,135	*28.0%*	9,122	*28.0%*	9,318	*28.7%*	224,860	*27.6%*
Birth Circumstances & Health								
Children born to teenage mothers	69	*3.1%*	71	*3.0%*	81	*3.8%*	1,958	*3.0%*
Children born at low birth weight	106	*4.8%*	112	*4.8%*	108	*5.1%*	3,320	*5.1%*
Children who were not fully immunized by age 2 (1992-93)			425	*34.0%*			27,172	*39.3%*
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	673	*4.1%*	539	*3.4%*	567	*3.5%*	12,387	*3.4%*
Children arrested for violent crime	55	*27.5%*	56	*30.8%*	85	*36.6%*	1,767	*25.9%*
Children abused and neglected	510		513		468		11,871	
Children dying violently	11		12		5		204	

Children's Defense Fund of MN, 550 Rice Street, Suite 205, St. Paul, MN 55103; 612/227-6121

Scott

Demographics (1990)

Total population	58,213
Number of children	18,024
African-American	96
American Indian	128
Asian	232
Other	38
Hispanic	168
Children under 6	6,413
Children in single parent homes	9.8%
Median family income	$43,890

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Scott County

Scott County comprises the southwest edge of the Minneapolis-St. Paul Metropolitan Statistical Area and is the tenth largest county in Minnesota. Prior Lake Indian Reservation is located within the county. Scott County had the tenth highest per capita personal income in the state: $20,376. Services, durable goods manufacturing, and construction were the largest industries in Scott County in 1993. The services industry increased by 20% since 1992.

According to the 1990 census, children in Scott County are least likely to live in poverty. The county had one of the lowest rates of children dropping out of school and did well on most other indicators of child well-being. The number of children committing violent crimes was higher than the average county in the state.

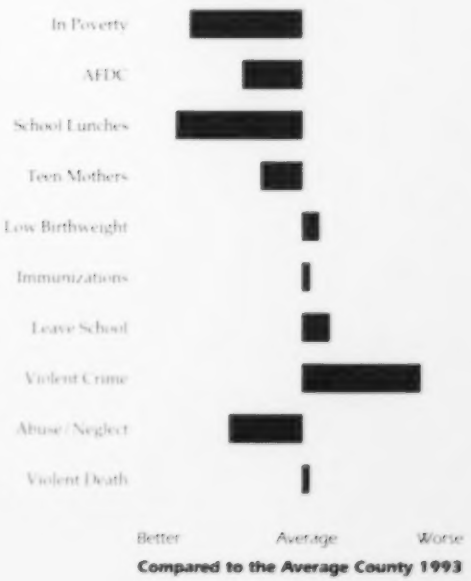
	1991		1992		1993		1993 State	
Family Economics								
Children in poverty (1990 census)	770	4.3%					142,202	12.4%
Children receiving AFDC	592	3.3%	705	3.9%	664	3.7%	125,260	10.7%
Children eligible for free/reduced-price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	1,315	12.5%	1,340	12.1%	1,410	12.5%	224,860	27.6%
Birth Circumstances & Health								
Children born to teenage mothers	19	1.7%	16	1.4%	18	1.5%	1,958	3.0%
Children born at low birth weight	57	5.0%	58	4.9%	56	4.7%	3,320	5.1%
Children who were not fully immunized by age 2 (1992-93)			336	37.1%			27,172	39.3%
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	62	1.3%	42	0.9%	42	0.9%	12,387	3.4%
Children arrested for violent crime	12	24.0%	13	27.1%	16	30.2%	1,767	25.9%
Children abused and neglected	140		158		138		11,871	
Children dying violently	3		2		1		204	

Sherburne

Demographics (1990)

Total population	42,266
Number of children	13,135
African-American	23
American Indian	50
Asian	90
Other	43
Hispanic	157
Children under 6	4,358
Children in single parent homes	10.4%
Median family income	$39,261

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Sherburne County



Sherburne County is located in central Minnesota, on the northern edge of the Minneapolis-St. Paul Metropolitan Statistical Area. It is the seventeenth largest county in Minnesota and had a per capita income of $16,302 in 1993. Its largest industries were transportation and public utilities, state and local government, and services. The services sector of the economy grew the fastest in 1993, increasing by 13%.

According to the 1990 census, 7% of the children in Sherburne County lived in poverty. Sherburne County reported one of the lowest percentages of children receiving free or reduced-price school lunches. The county also saw fewer children dropping out of school. A significant increase in the number of children committing violent crimes was reported for 1993. The percentage of teenage births, although better than the state average, increased from 1991 to 1993.

	1991		1992		1993		1993 State	
Family Economics								
Children in poverty (1990 census)	906	7.0%					142,202	12.4%
Children receiving AFDC	675	5.1%	688	5.2%	661	5.0%	125,260	10.7%
Children eligible for free/reduced-price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	1,363	15.6%	1,533	16.3%	1,588	15.9%	224,860	27.6%
Birth Circumstances & Health								
Children born to teenage mothers	6	0.8%	19	2.5%	18	2.3%	1,958	3.0%
Children born at low birth weight	36	4.7%	40	5.3%	40	5.1%	3,320	5.1%
Children who were not fully immunized by age 2 (1992-93)			79	39.9%			27,172	39.3%
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	119	3.1%	138	3.3%	118	2.7%	12,387	3.4%
Children arrested for violent crime	3	10.0%	5	14.3%	11	39.3%	1,767	25.9%
Children abused and neglected	41		48		58		11,871	
Children dying violently	2		4		3		204	

Sibley

Sibley County is a moderate-sized county located in south central Minnesota. Its per capita income of $14,998 placed it in the bottom fourth of Minnesota counties. The largest industries in 1993 were state and local government, services, retail and construction. Wholesale trade increased by 20% from 1992 to 1993.

Sibley County had a better-than-average rate of fully immunized children, and a low percentage of children dropping out of school. Areas of concern include an increase in substantiated reports of child abuse and neglect from 1991 to 1993. The number of children receiving AFDC increased significantly since 1991, as did the percentage of students receiving free or reduced-price school lunch.

Demographics (1990)

Total population	14,475
Number of children	4,094
African-American	0
American Indian	2
Asian	26
Other	14
Hispanic	59
Children under 6	1,320
Children in single parent homes	9.2%
Median family income	$29,436

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Sibley County

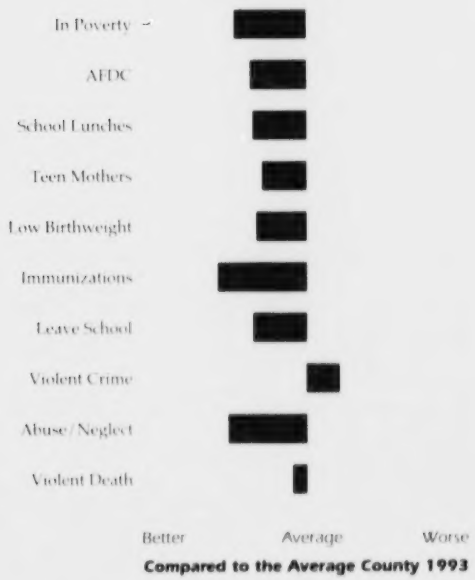
	1991		1992		1993		1993 State	
Family Economics								
Children in poverty (1990 census)	520	12.8%					142,202	12.4%
Children receiving AFDC	154	3.8%	160	3.9%	212	5.2%	125,260	10.7%
Children eligible for free/reduced-price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	528	22.4%	664	24.4%	732	28.3%	224,860	27.6%
Birth Circumstances & Health								
Children born to teenage mothers	3	1.5%	4	2.3%	4	2.5%	1,958	3.0%
Children born at low birth weight	9	4.5%	10	5.7%	8	5.0%	3,320	5.1%
Children who were not fully immunized by age 2 (1992-93)			882	35.4%			27,172	39.3%
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	26	2.3%	11	0.9%	21	1.7%	12,387	3.4%
Children arrested for violent crime	0		0		1	14.3%	1,767	25.9%
Children abused and neglected	37		43		73		11,871	
Children dying violently	0		0		4		204	

Stearns

Demographics (1990)

Total population	119,268
Number of children	33,430
African-American	205
American Indian	178
Asian	176
Other	65
Hispanic	203
Children under 6	10,985
Children in single parent homes	12.7%
Median family income	$32,949

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Stearns County



Stearns County is located in central Minnesota and is part of the St. Cloud Metropolitan Statistical Area. It is the seventh largest county in Minnesota. Its largest industries in 1993 were services, retail, and state and local government. Wholesale trade increased 16% from 1992 to 1993. Stearns County's per capita personal income of $16,335 was the thirty-fourth highest in the state.

Both the number and percent of children born with low birth weight decreased in Sterns County between 1991 and 1993. The county also had a better-than-average rate of immunization by age two. The percent of violent crimes committed by children, while higher than the average county, remained steady from 1991 to 1993. Births to teens increased in Stearns County, although the rate remained below average.

	1991		1992		1993		1993 State	
Family Economics								
Children in poverty (1990 census)	3,250	9.9%					142,202	12.4%
Children receiving AFDC	1,697	5.1%	1,771	5.3%	1,755	5.2%	125,260	10.7%
Children eligible for free/reduced-price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	6,862	25.6%	6,990	25.5%	7,037	25.2%	224,860	27.6%
Birth Circumstances & Health								
Children born to teenage mothers	28	1.7%	23	1.4%	36	2.2%	1,958	3.0%
Children born at low birth weight	94	5.6%	64	3.8%	59	3.7%	3,320	5.1%
Children who were not fully immunized by age 2 (1992-93)			567	30.7%			27,172	39.3%
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	135	1.2%	74	0.6%	120	1.0%	12,387	3.4%
Children arrested for violent crime	33	26.2%	30	22.1%	31	23.1%	1,767	25.9%
Children abused and neglected	106		126		137		11,871	
Children dying violently	7		7		5		204	

Steele

Demographics (1990)

Total population	31,355
Number of children	8,769
African-American	50
American Indian	21
Asian	130
Other	141
Hispanic	251
Children under 6	2,972
Children in single parent homes	10.3%
Median family income	$36,158

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Steele County

Steele County, in southeast Minnesota, is the twenty-ninth largest county in the state. During the summer months, the population of Steele County includes migrant farmworkers and their children. Steele County's per capita personal income of $18,744 was the tenth highest in the state. The largest industries were durable goods manufacturing; services; and finance, insurance and real estate. Durable goods manufacturing increased 11% from 1992 to 1993.

In Steele County, substantiated reports of child abuse and neglect decreased from 1991 to 1993. The percent of births to teens also remained quite low for those years. Areas of concern include an increase in the school dropout rate from 1991-92 to 1993-94.

	1991		1992		1993		1993 State	
Family Economics								
Children in poverty (1990 census)	669	7.7%					142,202	12.4%
Children receiving AFDC	399	4.6%	411	4.7%	383	4.4%	125,260	10.7%
Children eligible for free/reduced-price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	1,181	18.3%	1,394	21.0%	1,478	22.2%	224,860	27.6%
Birth Circumstances & Health								
Children born to teenage mothers	5	1.2%	9	2.1%	7	1.6%	1,958	3.0%
Children born at low birth weight	18	4.4%	31	7.2%	22	5.2%	3,320	5.1%
Children who were not fully immunized by age 2 (1992-93)			182	33.9%			27,172	39.3%
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	54	1.9%	57	1.9%	66	2.2%	12,387	3.4%
Children arrested for violent crime	6	37.5%	3	16.7%	3	6.7%	1,767	25.9%
Children abused and neglected	100		139		71		11,871	
Children dying violently	2		1		2		204	

Stevens

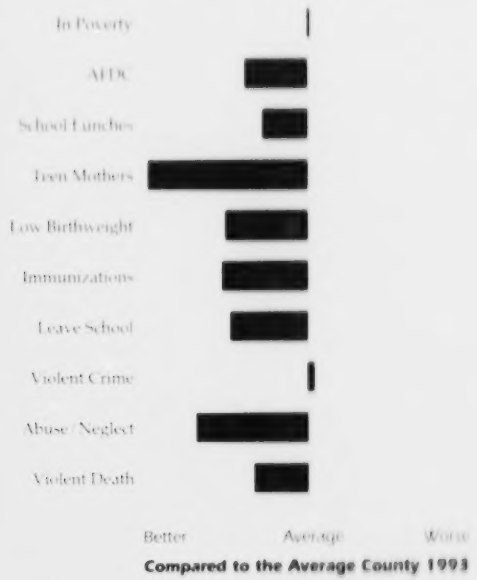
Stevens County is located in west central Minnesota and is the sixteenth smallest county in the state. The largest industries in 1993 were state and local government, services, and retail. A 79% decline in farm earnings from 1992 to 1993 contributed to a drop in per capita personal income to $15,156.

Children in Stevens County generally are doing well on indicators of child well-being. No teenagers gave birth in Stevens County in 1992 and 1993. There was a small increase in the number of children dropping out of school from 1991-92 to 1993-94.

Demographics (1990)

Total population	10,714
Number of children	2,516
African-American	34
American Indian	16
Asian	55
Other	18
Hispanic	36
Children under 6	777
Children in single parent homes	11.3%
Median family income	$29,345

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Stevens County



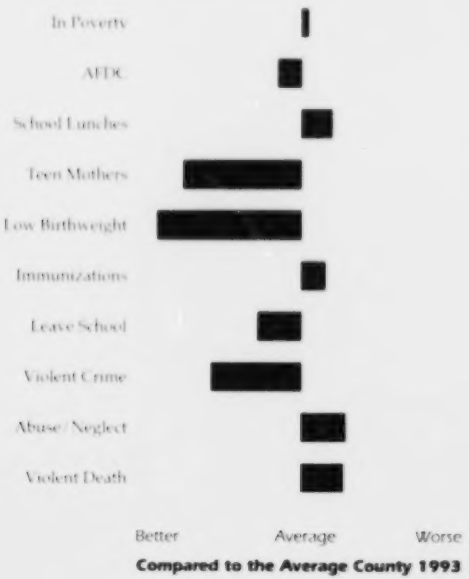
	1991		1992		1993		1993 State	
Family Economics								
Children in poverty (1990 census)	377	15.2%					142,202	12.4%
Children receiving AFDC	144	5.7%	134	5.3%	122	4.8%	125,260	10.7%
Children eligible for free/reduced-price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	499	26.1%	478	24.7%	519	26.3%	224,860	27.6%
Birth Circumstances & Health								
Children born to teenage mothers	3	2.8%	0		0		1,958	3.0%
Children born at low birth weight	3	2.8%	4	4.7%	3	3.0%	3,320	5.1%
Children who were not fully immunized by age 2 (1992-93)			35	31.0%			27,172	39.3%
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	1	0.1%	4	0.4%	5	0.5%	12,387	3.4%
Children arrested for violent crime	0		1	33.3%	2	18.2%	1,767	25.9%
Children abused and neglected	5		12		5		11,871	
Children dying violently	0		0		0		204	

Swift

Demographics (1990)

Total population	10,784
Number of children	2,797
African-American	0
American Indian	2
Asian	19
Other	7
Hispanic	39
Children under 6	843
Children in single parent homes	9.9%
Median family income	$24,434

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Swift County



Swift County, located in west central Minnesota, is a moderately small county. The 1993 per capita personal income was $15,226. The largest industries were state and local government, durable goods manufacturing, and services. Durable goods manufacturing increased by 55.2% from 1992 to 1993.

Swift County had below-average rates of teenage births, children born with low birth weight, and children dropping out of school. Immunization rates were also below average. There was little change over time for most of the indicators. Substantiated reports of child abuse and neglect increased in Swift County between 1991 and 1993.

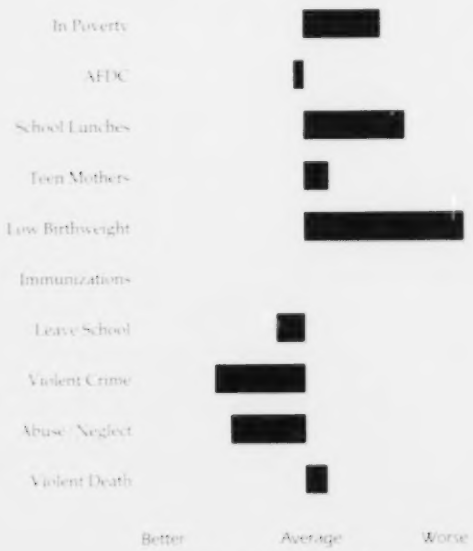
	1991		1992		1993		1993 State	
Family Economics								
Children in poverty (1990 census)	430	15.5%					142,202	12.4%
Children receiving AFDC	209	7.5%	212	7.6%	198	7.1%	125,260	10.7%
Children eligible for free/reduced-price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	755	34.8%	757	34.2%	769	36.0%	224,860	27.6%
Birth Circumstances & Health								
Children born to teenage mothers	1	0.7%	3	2.3%	1	0.8%	1,958	3.0%
Children born at low birth weight	3	2.1%	0		2	1.6%	3,320	5.1%
Children who were not fully immunized by age 2 (1992-93)			66	41.5%			27,172	39.3%
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	10	1.2%	16	1.8%	11	1.2%	12,387	3.4%
Children arrested for violent crime	0		0		0		1,767	25.9%
Children abused and neglected	28		18		33		11,871	
Children dying violently	2		1		1		204	

Todd

Demographics (1990)

Total population	23,423
Number of children	7,153
African-American	3
American Indian	20
Asian	30
Other	4
Hispanic	19
Children under 6	2,079
Children in single parent homes	10.7%
Median family income	$23,462

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Todd County



Compared to the Average County 1993

Todd County is a moderate-sized county in the central portion of Minnesota. Its 1993 per capita personal income of $13,338 was one of the lowest in Minnesota. The largest industries were non-durable goods manufacturing, state and local government, and services.

Todd County had a decrease in the number of teen births from 1991 to 1993. Substantiated reports of child abuse and neglect also decreased, in contrast with the state trend. The percent of children born with low birth weight exceeded the state average in 1991 and 1993, and the rate of teenage births was slightly higher than average.

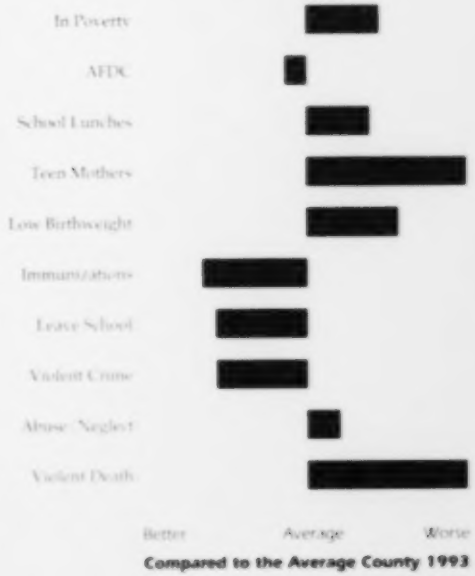
	1991		1992		1993		1993 State	
Family Economics								
Children in poverty (1990 census)	1,449	20.3%					142,202	12.4%
Children receiving AFDC	544	7.6%	562	7.9%	564	7.9%	125,260	10.7%
Children eligible for free/reduced-price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	2,280	47.1%	2,263	43.6%	2,263	44.9%	224,860	27.6%
Birth Circumstances & Health								
Children born to teenage mothers	13	4.0%	11	3.9%	10	3.5%	1,958	3.0%
Children born at low birth weight	20	6.2%	9	3.2%	25	8.8%	3,320	5.1%
Children who were not fully immunized by age 2 (1992-93)			138	39.2%			27,172	39.3%
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	40	1.6%	29	1.2%	38	1.5%	12,387	3.4%
Children arrested for violent crime	0		2	14.3%	0		1,767	23.9%
Children abused and neglected	43		35		31		11,871	
Children dying violently	0		4		2		204	

Traverse

Demographics (1990)

Total population	4,475
Number of children	1,179
African-American	0
American Indian	44
Asian	0
Other	0
Hispanic	6
Children under 6	366
Children in single parent homes	8.9%
Median family income	$24,830

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Traverse County



Traverse County is located in the west central part of the state on the South Dakota border. It is the third smallest county in Minnesota. The county's per capita personal income of $17,232 was in the top fourth for the state. It decreased over 20% from 1992, primarily due to a decline in farm income. The largest industries in 1993 were state and local government, services, and retail.

The 1990 poverty rate for children in Traverse County was above the state average. However, the number of children receiving AFDC was below average from 1991 to 1993, while the number of children receiving free or reduced-price school lunch was also above average. Substantiated reports of child abuse and neglect increased in 1992, but returned to previous levels in 1993.

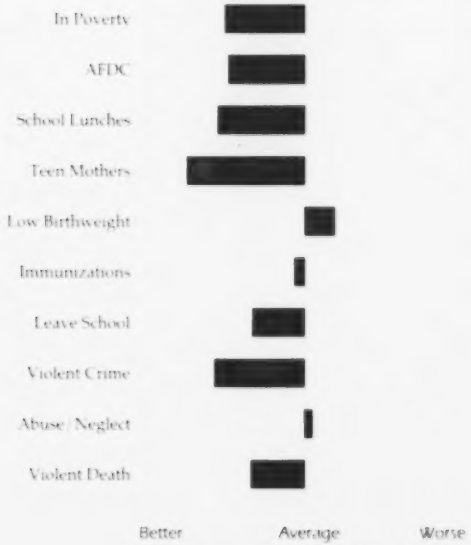
	1991		1992		1993		1993 State	
Family Economics								
Children in poverty (1990 census)	237	20.2%					142,202	12.4%
Children receiving AFDC	84	7.1%	93	2.9%	85	7.2%	125,260	10.7%
Children eligible for free/reduced-price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	323	38.5%	340	40.2%	334	40.0%	224,860	27.6%
Birth Circumstances & Health								
Children born to teenage mothers	0		2	4.4%	3	6.7%	1,958	3.0%
Children born at low birth weight	3	5.7%	1	2.2%	3	6.7%	3,320	5.1%
Children who were not fully immunized by age 2 (1992-93)			7	29.2%			27,172	39.3%
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	0		2	0.5%	1	0.3%	12,387	3.4%
Children arrested for violent crime	0		0		0		1,767	25.9%
Children abused and neglected	10		27		13		11,871	
Children dying violently	0		0		1		204	

Wabasha

Demographics (1990)

Total population	19,793
Number of children	5,692
African-American	2
American Indian	2
Asian	20
Other	0
Hispanic	32
Children under 6	1,902
Children in single parent homes	12.1%
Median family income	$32,023

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Wabasha County



* Compared to the Average County 1993

Wabasha County is a mid-sized county located in southeast Minnesota along the Mississippi River. The largest industries in 1993 were state and local government, retail trade, durable goods manufacturing, and retail. Durable goods manufacturing increased by almost 23% from 1992. The county's per capita income of $17,635 placed it in the top fourth of counties in Minnesota.

Wabasha County had a very low rate of teenage births, which decreased between 1991 and 1993. Areas for concern include an increase in children dropping out of school, although the rate remained below average. Substantiated reports of child abuse and neglect also increased between 1992 and 1993.

	1991		1992		1993		1993 State	
Family Economics								
Children in poverty (1990 census)	525	9.3%					142,202	12.4%
Children receiving AFDC	269	4.7%	277	4.9%	232	4.1%	125,260	10.7%
Children eligible for free/reduced-price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	898	19.6%	842	20.8%	861	20.9%	224,860	27.6%
Birth Circumstances & Health								
Children born to teenage mothers	6	2.1%	5	2.1%	2	0.8%	1,958	3.0%
Children born at low birth weight	8	2.8%	15	6.3%	13	5.4%	3,320	5.1%
Children who were not fully immunized by age 2 (1992-93)			141	38.2%			27,172	39.3%
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	12	0.6%	19	1.0%	20	1.0%	12,387	3.4%
Children arrested for violent crime	2	33.3%	0		0		1,767	25.9%
Children abused and neglected	36		31		54		11,871	
Children dying violently	0		2		0		204	

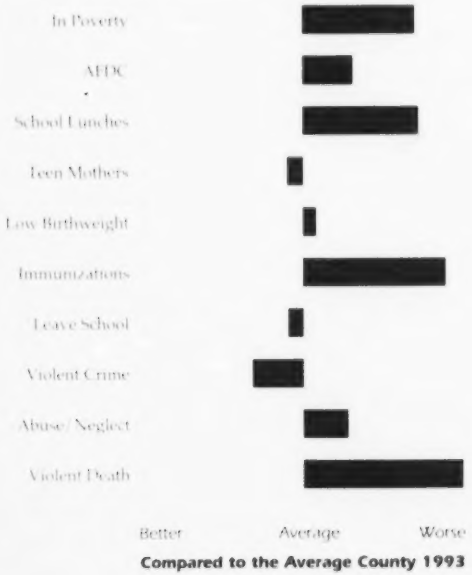
Children's Defense Fund of MN, 550 Rice Street, Suite 205, St. Paul, MN 55103; 612/227-6121

Wadena

Demographics (1990)

Total population	13,171
Number of children	3,733
African-American	0
American Indian	34
Asian	14
Other	0
Hispanic	4
Children under 6	1,188
Children in single parent homes	17.4%
Median family income	$22,872

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Wadena County



Wadena County is a moderately small county in the north central portion of the state. Wadena County had one of the lowest per capita personal incomes in the state in 1993: $13,686. The largest industries were state and local government, services, and durable goods manufacturing. The fastest growing segment of the economy was durable goods manufacturing, which increased by 32%.

Wadena County had a decrease in substantiated reports of child abuse and neglect from 1991 to 1993. The county had a relatively high poverty rate and higher-than-average numbers of children received AFDC and free or reduced-price school lunch. Areas of concern include a below-average rate of immunization and an increase in the school dropout rate.

	1991		1992		1993		1993 State	
Family Economics								
Children in poverty (1990 census)	840	23.0%					142,202	12.4%
Children receiving AFDC	411	11.0%	451	12.1%	421	11.3%	125,260	10.7%
Children eligible for free/reduced-price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	1,474	46.6%	1,440	45.9%	1,528	46.8%	224,860	27.6%
Birth Circumstances & Health								
Children born to teenage mothers	5	2.8%	13	8.2%	5	2.8%	1,958	3.0%
Children born at low birth weight	6	3.4%	11	7.0%	9	5.0%	3,320	5.1%
Children who were not fully immunized by age 2 (1992-93)			143	52.8%			27,172	39.3%
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	13	0.9%	21	1.4%	29	1.8%	12,387	3.4%
Children arrested for violent crime	3	21.4%	3	11.1%	2	7.4%	1,767	25.9%
Children abused and neglected	89		43		44		11,871	
Children dying violently	1		1		3		204	

Waseca

Demographics (1990)

Total population	18,226
Number of children	5,210
African-American	17
American Indian	17
Asian	35
Other	28
Hispanic	61
Children under 6	1,631
Children in single parent homes	13.2%
Median family income	$32,282

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Waseca County

Waseca County is a moderate-sized county located in the southeast portion of Minnesota. The largest industries in 1993 were nondurable goods manufacturing, durable goods manufacturing, and services. The services sector was the fastest growing. The per capita personal income of $15,616 ranked fifty-fourth in the state.

Waseca County had above-average immunization rates and had a decrease in substantiated reports of child abuse and neglect from 1991 to 1993. Waseca County had an increase in the percentage of children born with low birth weight. It also recorded a small increase in the number of births to teens.

	1991		1992		1993		1993 State	
Family Economics								
Children in poverty (1990 census)	582	11.3%					142,202	12.4%
Children receiving AFDC	286	5.5%	303	5.8%	309	5.9%	125,260	10.7%
Children eligible for free/reduced-price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	945	23.4%	1,006	24.8%	1,081	26.2%	224,860	27.6%
Birth Circumstances & Health								
Children born to teenage mothers	4	1.7%	5	2.2%	6	2.6%	1,958	3.0%
Children born at low birth weight	11	4.6%	9	3.9%	15	6.4%	3,320	5.1%
Children who were not fully immunized by age 2 (1992-93)			93	35.1%			27,172	39.3%
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	27	1.5%	28	1.5%	25	1.3%	12,387	3.4%
Children arrested for violent crime	1	33.3%	0		1	25.0%	1,767	25.9%
Children abused and neglected	38		22		25		11,871	
Children dying violently	1		0		1		204	

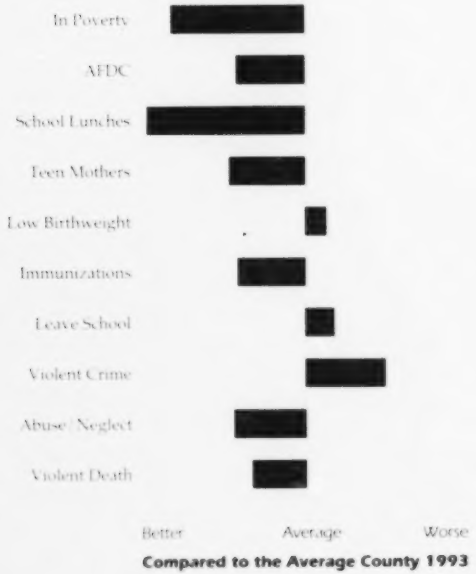
Children's Defense Fund of MN, 550 Rice Street, Suite 205, St. Paul, MN 55103; 612/227-6121

Washington

Demographics (1990)

Total population	147,885
Number of children	44,335
African-American	564
American Indian	235
Asian	835
Other	263
Hispanic	978
Children under 6	14,880
Children in single parent homes	12.7%
Median family income	$48,098

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Washington County



Washington County is in the eastern part of the Minneapolis-St. Paul Metropolitan Area and borders Wisconsin. Washington County is the sixth largest county in Minnesota. Its per capita income of $22,394 is the fourth highest in the state. Durable goods manufacturing, services, and state and local government were the largest industries in 1993. The fastest growing industry was construction, which increased by almost 17%.

Washington County has a below-average rate of teen births and decreased this rate between 1991 and 1993. It also had a better-than-average rate of immunization by age two. Areas of concern include an increase in the number and percentage of children born with low birth weight. While more children were arrested for violent crimes in Washington County than in the average county, this number held steady from 1991 to 1993.

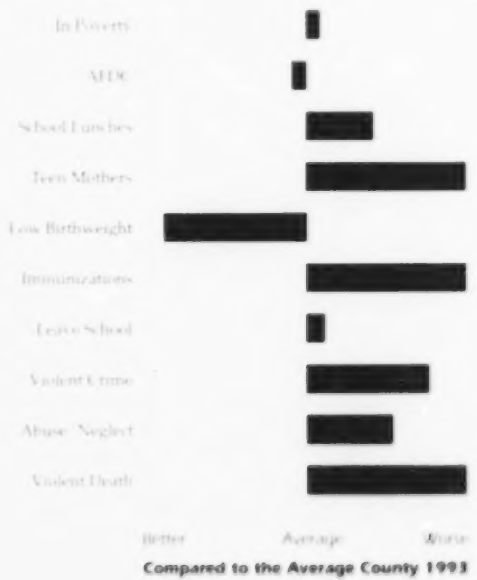
	1991		1992		1993		1993 State	
Family Economics								
Children in poverty (1990 census)	2,394	5.5%					142,202	12.4%
Children receiving AFDC	1,856	4.2%	2,013	4.5%	2,010	4.5%	125,260	10.7%
Children eligible for free/reduced-price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	3,185	11.3%	3,424	11.7%	3,579	11.8%	224,860	27.6%
Birth Circumstances & Health								
Children born to teenage mothers	45	2.0%	32	1.4%	40	1.6%	1,958	3.0%
Children born at low birth weight	104	4.5%	113	4.8%	127	5.2%	3,320	5.1%
Children who were not fully immunized by age 2 (1992-93)			808	32.7%			27,172	39.3%
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	501	3.9%	347	2.7%	372	2.7%	12,387	3.4%
Children arrested for violent crime	64	29.9%	68	39.3%	62	32.0%	1,767	25.9%
Children abused and neglected	219		226		200		11,871	
Children dying violently	7		8		0		204	

Watonwan

Demographics (1990)

Total population	12,236
Number of children	3,265
African-American	20
American Indian	2
Asian	30
Other	215
Hispanic	245
Children under 6	1,105
Children in single parent homes	12.1%
Median family income	$27,625

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Watonwan County



Watonwan County is located in the south central portion of Minnesota, near the Iowa border. The largest industry was non-durable goods manufacturing, followed by services and state and local government. From 1992 to 1993, there was an 11% increase in the services industry. The $15,885 per capita personal income in Watonwan County ranked near the middle of the state's counties.

The percentage of children receiving AFDC increased significantly from 1991 to 1993, but remained well below the state average. The county experienced twice as many teenage births in 1993 as in 1991. More than half of the children in Watonwan County were not fully immunized by age two, which was much higher than the average county.

	1991		1992		1993		1993 State	
Family Economics								
Children in poverty (1990 census)	516	16.0%					142,202	12.4%
Children receiving AFDC	97	3.0%	235	7.2%	249	7.6%	125,260	10.7%
Children eligible for free/reduced-price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	727	31.8%	822	37.6%	879	40.5%	224,860	27.6%
Birth Circumstances & Health								
Children born to teenage mothers	5	2.8%	10	5.2%	12	6.7%	1,958	3.0%
Children born at low birth weight	11	6.1%	11	5.7%	3	1.7%	3,320	5.1%
Children who were not fully immunized by age 2 (1992-93)			76	54.7%			27,172	39.3%
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	16	1.6%	29	2.7%	26	2.5%	12,387	3.4%
Children arrested for violent crime	3	23.1%	0		2	40.0%	1,767	25.9%
Children abused and neglected	29		20		47		11,871	
Children dying violently	1		0		5		204	

Wilkin

Wilkin County is located in west central Minnesota on the North Dakota border. It is one of the ten smallest counties in the state. During the summer months, the population of Wilkin County includes migrant farmworkers and their children. Its per capita personal income of $15,693 declined from 1992-1993. The largest industry was non-durable goods manufacturing, followed by services and state and local government.

The 1990 poverty rate for children in Wilkin County was equal to the state average. The county reports figures below the state average on all but two indicators. The percentage of children born with low birth weight rose significantly. In addition, about one half of the children in Wilkin County are not fully immunized by age two.

Demographics (1990)

Total population	7,603
Number of children	2,112
African-American	0
American Indian	25
Asian	5
Other	9
Hispanic	36
Children under 6	658
Children in single parent homes	9.2%
Median family income	$28,726

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Wilkin County

	1991		1992		1993		1993 State	
Family Economics								
Children in poverty (1990 census)	255	12.4%					142,202	12.4%
Children receiving AFDC	215	10.2%	231	10.9%	233	11.0%	125,260	10.7%
Children eligible for free/reduced-price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	562	35.2%	578	34.7%	595	35.7%	224,860	27.6%
Birth Circumstances & Health								
Children born to teenage mothers	4	4.3%	2	2.6%	3	2.9%	1,958	3.0%
Children born at low birth weight	5	5.4%	4	5.2%	11	10.7%	3,320	5.1%
Children who were not fully immunized by age 2 (1992-93)			60	50.8%			27,172	39.3%
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	8	1.2%	4	0.6%	14	1.9%	12,387	3.4%
Children arrested for violent crime	0		3	60.0%	0		1,767	25.9%
Children abused and neglected	35		17		15		11,871	
Children dying violently	1		0		1		204	

Winona

Winona County is located in the southeastern area of Minnesota, bordering the Mississippi River. The per capita personal income of Winona County was $17,757 in 1993, ranking sixteenth in the state. The largest industries in Winona County were durable goods manufacturing, services, and non-durable goods manufacturing. The fastest growing industry was durable goods manufacturing, which increased 13%.

Overall, indicators of child well-being in Winona County are similar to or better than the average Minnesota county. Although the percentage of children born with low birth weight showed an increase from 1992 to 1993, the rates dropped slightly from 1991. The rates of teenage births also followed this pattern.

Demographics (1990)

Total population	48,184
Number of children	11,764
African-American	45
American Indian	7
Asian	190
Other	11
Hispanic	98
Children under 6	3,895
Children in single parent homes	12.7%
Median family income	$32,454

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Winona County

	1991		1992		1993		1993 State	
Family Economics								
Children in poverty (1990 census)	1,218	10.5%					142,202	12.4%
Children receiving AFDC	750	6.4%	806	6.9%	769	6.5%	125,260	10.7%
Children eligible for free / reduced-price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	1,855	23.1%	1,817	23.3%	1,910	24.3%	224,860	27.6%
Birth Circumstances & Health								
Children born to teenage mothers	21	3.4%	12	2.1%	16	2.9%	1,958	3.0%
Children born at low birth weight	38	6.2%	20	3.6%	31	5.6%	3,320	5.1%
Children who were not fully immunized by age 2 (1992-93)			217	33.9%			27,172	39.3%
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	114	3.7%	95	3.1%	97	3.2%	12,387	3.4%
Children arrested for violent crime	0		8	14.0%	1	3.7%	1,767	25.9%
Children abused and neglected	69		121		86		11,871	
Children dying violently	2		1		1		204	

Children's Defense Fund of MN, 550 Rice Street, Suite 205, St. Paul, MN 55103; 612/227-6121

Wright

Demographics (1990)

Total population	68,970
Number of children	22,469
African-American	38
American Indian	97
Asian	168
Other	2
Hispanic	134
Children under 6	7,546
Children in single parent homes	12.9%
Median family income	$36,981

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Wright County

Compared to the Average County 1993

Wright County is located in the western portion of the Minneapolis-St. Paul Metropolitan Area. It is one of the ten largest counties in Minnesota, and its largest industries in 1993 were services, state and local government, retail, and durable goods manufacturing. Durable goods manufacturing was the fastest growing segment of the economy, increasing by 13%. Wright County had a per capita income of $17,631, ranking eighteenth in the state.

Substantiated reports of child abuse and neglect in 1993 rose slightly from 1992 but show a decline from 1991. Wright County did better than the state average in the number of children dropping out of school. One area of concern is a sharp increase in the number of children committing violent crimes between 1991 and 1993. The county also had a slight increase in the number of children born with low birth weight.

	1991		1992		1993		1993 State	
Family Economics								
Children in poverty (1990 census)	1,690	7.7%					142,202	12.4%
Children receiving AFDC	1,081	4.8%	1,181	5.3%	1,240	5.5%	125,260	10.7%
Children eligible for free/reduced-price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	2,591	17.4%	2,887	18.9%	2,826	18.1%	224,860	27.6%
Birth Circumstances & Health								
Children born to teenage mothers	24	2.0%	27	2.3%	17	1.4%	1,958	3.0%
Children born at low birth weight	51	4.2%	40	3.4%	69	5.9%	3,320	5.1%
Children who were not fully immunized by age 2 (1992-93)			573	40.7%			27,172	39.3%
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	118	1.8%	124	1.8%	132	1.8%	12,387	3.4%
Children arrested for violent crime	2	3.0%	24	27.9%	22	31.0%	1,767	25.9%
Children abused and neglected	119		74		82		11,871	
Children dying violently	4		3		1		204	

Yellow Medicine

Yellow Medicine County is located on the South Dakota border in the southwestern portion of Minnesota. Its per capita personal income of $15,231 ranked fifty-eighth in the state. The largest industries were services, state and local government, and retail trade. From 1992 to 1993, the services industry increased by 31%.

The rate of children receiving AFDC remained below the state average, while the percentage of children receiving free or reduced-price school lunch continues to be higher than the state average. Very few children dropped out of school and even fewer children committed violent crimes. Concerns include the percentage of children not immunized by age two and an increase in substantiated reports of child abuse and neglect.

Demographics (1990)

Total population	11,748
Number of children	3,150
African-American	0
American Indian	38
Asian	19
Other	20
Hispanic	35
Children under 6	960
Children in single parent homes	7.3%
Median family income	$27,079

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Yellow Medicine County

Compared to the Average County 1993

	1991		1992		1993		1993 State	
Family Economics								
Children in poverty (1990 census)	488	15.6%					142,202	12.4%
Children receiving AFDC	194	6.2%	203	6.4%	206	6.5%	125,260	10.7%
Children eligible for free/reduced-price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	888	37.1%	974	39.8%	969	39.4%	224,860	27.6%
Birth Circumstances & Health								
Children born to teenage mothers	4	3.2%	5	3.7%	4	2.7%	1,958	3.0%
Children born at low birth weight	4	3.2%	4	3.0%	7	4.8%	3,320	5.1%
Children who were not fully immunized by age 2 (1992-93)			67	41.6%			27,172	39.3%
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94)	10	1.0%	10	0.9%	11	0.9%	12,387	3.4%
Children arrested for violent crime	1	12.5%	1	20.0%	2	10.0%	1,767	25.9%
Children abused and neglected	21		33		44		11,871	
Children dying violently	0		2		1		204	

Children's Defense Fund of MN, 550 Rice Street, Suite 205, St. Paul, MN 55103; 612/227-6121

Data Sources

Demographic Information. 1990 population and income data are from Table P13 of the U.S. Census provided by the University of Minnesota Machine Readable Data Center.

Data About Children Of Color. Data about children of color is collected using many different methods. Parents might identify their race or the race of their children, race may be determined by others based on a visual determination, or a combination of these methods may be used. Furthermore, different categories are used to classify children by race. Some indicators treat "Hispanic" as a separate ethnic designation rather than a race, while others do not. KIDS COUNT has attempted to identify whether or not "children of color" includes Chicano/Latino children for a particular indicator.

Accepted names for various racial and ethnic groups are constantly in flux and once again, indicators differ in their terminology. KIDS COUNT has tried to use widely accepted terms that generally match the categories in which most of the data is collected.

Finally, children of color are often undercounted and unmeasured. Families may be mistrustful of providing information to the government. Children of migrant farmworkers may not be adequately represented because they are only in Minnesota part of the year. Data collectors may not be fluent in the parents' language or may determine race for a child incorrectly. Thus, data about children of color in Minnesota should be interpreted with caution.

Children in Poverty is the number and percentage of related children under age 18 who live in families with incomes below the poverty line. Poverty rates by race for 1989 are from Table P119 of the 1990 census.

Children Receiving AFDC is the monthly average of all children receiving Aid to Families With Dependent Children payments between July 1 and June 30 of the selected fiscal years. It is provided by the Minnesota Department of Human Services. The percentage of children receiving AFDC is the number of children receiving AFDC divided by the total number of children recorded in the 1990 census.

Children Approved for Free/Reduced-Price School Lunches is the number of children who have been approved to receive these meals in October of each school year. It is provided by the Minnesota Department of Children, Families and Learning. Public schools and many private schools are represented. Not all eligible children participate in this program. The percent of children eligible is the number of children approved for meals divided by the total school enrollment.

Children Born to Teenage Mothers is the number of infants born to women who were less than age 18 at the time of the child's birth. It is provided by The Center for Health Statistics of the Minnesota Health Department, based on information collected from birth certificates. The percentage of children born to teenage mothers is the number of children born to teenage mothers divided by the total number of births.

Children Born at Low Birth Weight is the number of babies weighing less than 2500 grams (5.5 pounds) at birth. It is provided by The Center for Health Statistics of the Minnesota Health Department,

(continued on page 116)

based on information collected from birth certificates. The percent of children born at low birth weight is the number of low birth weight children divided by the total number of births.

Children Who Were Not Fully Immunized By Age 2 is the number of kindergarten students in the 1992-93 school year who had not been immunized, according to a retrospective survey by the Minnesota Department of Health. The percentage of children not fully immunized is the number of un-immunized children divided by the total number of kindergarten students.

Children Dropping Out of School is the number of students who were enrolled in school during the previous school year and were not enrolled by October 1 of the current school year. It is provided by the Minnesota Department of Children, Families and Learning. This definition was new as of the 1993-94 school year; previously a student was counted as "dropping out" if they were not enrolled by the beginning of the next school year. The percentage of students dropping out is the number of students dropping out divided by the total enrollment of grades 7-12.

Children Arrested for Violent Crime is the number of children arrested for murder, negligent manslaughter, rape, robbery and aggravated assault. It is provided by the Criminal Justice Center at Minnesota Planning from statistics collected by the Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension. The percentage of children arrested for violent crime is the number of children arrested divided by the total number of arrests for violent crime.

Children Abused and Neglected is the number of children for whom a report of child abuse or neglect was substantiated by a county child protection worker. It is provided by the Minnesota Department of Human Services from statistics collected by counties. Substantiated abuse means that the local social service agency has conducted an assessment in response to a report and has found that maltreatment occurred.

Children Dying Violently is the number of children dying from murder, suicide and other injuries such as motor vehicle crashes, drowning and falls. It is provided by the Center for Health Statistics at the Minnesota Department of Health using information on death certificates.

About the Graphs for Indicators and Counties

The Indicator Graphs allow comparisons of different scores for the same indicator (i.e. low birth weight) among counties. The county graphs allow comparison of multiple indicators within a county. At a glance, you are also able to see how a county compares to the state average for each indicator. The "Minnesota Average" is the mean of all the county data points. Each thinner line represents one standard deviation above or below the average.

Comparing distributions that are expressed in different units is accomplished by using standard scores also known as z-scores. Standard scores are generated for each indicator by computing the difference between each data point and the mean (the sum of all county values divided by the number of counties) and dividing it by the standard deviation (a measure of the degree to which the scores cluster around the mean.) The resulting z-score has a mean of 0 and a standard deviation of one.

Other Resources

Local

Extension Staff, University of Minnesota
Call for the contact in your county:
612/625-1915

Family Service Collaboratives
Call for the contact in your county:
612/296-9729

Minnesota Student Survey
For County information call: Minnesota Prevention Resource Center 800/247-1303
For local school district information call your local Superintendent's office

Substance Abuse Monitoring System
Call for information about your county:
612/296-2311

State

Children's Defense Fund-MN: 612-227-6121

Congregations Concerned for Children, Greater Minneapolis Council of Churches:
612/870-3660

Joint Religious Legislative Coalition:
612/870-3670

Minnesota Organization on Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention: 612-771-5040; 800/657-3697

Minnesota Legislature:
House: 612/296-2146;
Senate: 612/296-0504

Search Institute: 612/376-8955

On-Line

Bureau of the Census
http://www.//census.us

Children, Youth and Family Consortium Electronic Clearinghouse
http://www.fsci.umn.edu/cyfc/cyfc.thml

Minnesota DataNet
http://www.lmic.state.mn.us

Minnesota Extension Service
http://www.mes.umn.edu

Minnesota Legislature
gopher://gopher.revisor.leg.state.umn.edu

U.S. House of Representatives
http://www.house.gov

U.S. Senate
http://www.senate.gov

Endnotes

Page vi
Center on Budget and Policy Priorities. *End Results: The Impact of Federal Policies Since 1980 on Low-Income Americans.* September 1994.

Page 4
Children's Defense Fund. *Wasting America's Future.* Boston: Beacon Press. 1994.

Page 8
Legislative Commission on the Economic Status of Women. *Public Assistance in Minnesota: Facts about Programs and Recipients.* January 1995.

Page 10
Tufts University School of Nutrition. *The Link Between Nutrition and Cognitive Development in Children.* 1995.

Page 14
David and Lucile Packard Foundation. *The Future of Children: Low Birth Weight.* Vol. 5:1, Spring 1995.

Page 16
Children's Defense Fund-Minnesota and Medica Foundation. *Shots for Tots: Best Practices Report.* April 1994.

Page 18
National Center for Education Statistics. *Dropout Rates in the United States: 1992.* (NCES 93-464). Washington, DC: US Department of Education, Government Printing Office. 1993.

Wagner, M., D'Amico, R., Marder, C., Newman, L., & Blackorby, J. *What happens next? Trends in postschool outcomes of youth with disabilities.* Washington, DC: US Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs. 1992.

Page 20
Minnesota Department of Public Safety. *The Report of the Violence Prevention Advisory Task Force.* January, 1995.

U.S. Department of Justice. *Violent Families and Youth Violence.* OJJDP Fact Sheet #21. December 1994.

Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. *Juvenile Offenders and Victims: A National Report.* Pittsburgh, PA: National Center for Juvenile Justice. 1995.

Page 22
National Center on Child Abuse and Neglect. 1992.

American Humane Association. *Child Protection Leader.* October 1995.

Minnesota Department of Public Safety. *The Report of the Violence Prevention Advisory Task Force.* St. Paul, MN: January, 1995.

Page 24
Facts provided by Minnesota Safety Council, 1995, and the Minnesota Department of Public Safety.

Addendum: 1993 Substantiated Reports of Child Abuse and Neglect

As this book went to press, we received updated 1993 figures for this indicator from the Minnesota Department of Human Services. These figures should replace the county numbers found on pages 22 and 23 as well as the numbers used on each county page for 1993. State totals for 1993 are correct on pages 23 and 27.

Aitkin	47
Anoka	503
Becker	105
Beltrami	105
Benton	48
Big Stone	2
Blue Earth	272
Brown	34
Carlton	24
Carver	78
Cass	105
Chippewa	66
Chisago	51
Clay	125
Clearwater	18
Cook	6
Cottonwood	27
Crow Wing	245
Dakota	581
Dodge	51
Douglas	102
Faribault	42
Fillmore	31
Freeborn	80
Goodhue	102
Grant	5
Hennepin	3,542
Houston	38
Hubbard	57
Isanti	34
Itasca	36
Jackson	8
Kanabec	12
Kandiyohi	69
Kittson	5
Koochiching	17
Lac qui Parle	2
Lake	19
Lake of the Woods	8
LeSueur	56
Lincoln	18
Lyon	86
MacLeod	123
Mahnomen	23
Marshall	43
Martin	56
Meeker	19
Mille Lacs	49
Morrison	37
Mower	43
Murray	13
Nicollet	95
Nobles	43
Norman	9
Olmsted	173
Otter Tail	105
Pennington	6
Pine	14
Pipestone	45
Polk	134
Pope	28
Ramsey	1,348
Red Lake	6
Redwood	58
Renville	45
Rice	94
Rock	40
Roseau	16
St. Louis	458
Scott	130
Sherburne	52
Sibley	70
Stearns	129
Steele	64
Stevens	3
Swift	31
Todd	31
Traverse	13
Wabasha	46
Wadena	41
Waseca	22
Washington	197
Watonwan	43
Wilkin	15
Winona	64
Wright	79
Yellow Medicine	43
State	11,058

Order Form

_____ *Minnesota KIDS COUNT: A Closer Look*, 1996 Data Book
$15 for-profit company and institution; $12 nonprofit/individual

_____ *Minnesota Kids: A Closer Look*, 1994 Data Book, $5

_____ *A Look at Minnesota Children in Out-of-Home Placement*, Fall 1995, $3

_____ *Minnesota's Children and Welfare Reform*, Summer 1995, $3

_____ *Child Care Assistance Keeps Minnesota Working*, Spring 1995, $3

_____ *Minnesota Child Support System Fails to Meet Children's Needs*, Spring 1993, $3

_____ *Minnesota KIDS COUNT: A Closer Look*, 1996 Video
$10 for-profit company and institution; $8 nonprofit/individual

Total Amount of Order _____

Plus Shipping and Handling ($1.50 per book or video and $.50 per report) _____

TOTAL _____

(Please make checks payable to **The Children's Defense Fund**.)

Organization: _____

Name: _____

Street: _____

City, State: _____

Zip: _____

Phone: _____

For discounts on orders of more than five, please call Minnesota Kids Count at 612/870-3660, x128.

Send orders to: Minnesota Kids Count, GMCC, 122 West Franklin Ave., Suite 218, Minneapolis, MN 55404.
Allow 1-2 weeks for delivery.

Minnesota KIDS COUNT: A Closer Look

Children's Defense Fund - Minnesota, 550 Rice Street, Suite 205, St. Paul, MN 55103; 612/227-6121.

Congregations Concerned for Children, 122 West Franklin Ave., Suite 218, Minneapolis, MN 55404; 612/870-3660.

BEST COPY AVAILABLE